



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

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THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

The Muscokee (Creek) Nation offices will be closed on Monday, Nov. 21 in observance of Native American Day. On Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 - 25, offices will once again be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Tulsa Creek Nation Casino Groundbreaking Ceremony



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, and former Chief Perry Beaver pose for a photo before the groundbreaking ceremony. Pictured below them is an architectural drawing of the new Tulsa Casino.

by GERALD WOFFORD
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA — The Muscokee (Creek) Nation broke ground Nov. 8 on a \$120 million casino-hotel complex near the banks of the Arkansas River.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, along with Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, National Council members, and numerous tribal and gaming officials were on hand for the ceremonies. "This is a great day for the Muscokee Nation," said Ellis "Everyone involved has made an effort to see that we get this done. With the expansion and construction of our new Tulsa casino, we will be able

to supplement several of our tribal programs with much needed revenue." Second Chief Berryhill agreed, "We have a lot of needs that need to be met today. I know that once the expansion is complete we'll be getting more funding and we have a lot of health concerns that need to be met and hopefully this will help ease some of that problem. I see it as the beginning, we're just now opening the door to expanding Nationwide."

Gaming officials said the renovated facility will continue to operate up until the first day of the new casino's completion. The projected finish date for the first phase of the three-phase hotel-casino is May 2007. Actual work

on the first phase, the casino, is set to begin within 30 days, officials said.

When completed, the 285,000 sq. ft. project site will have about 3,300 gaming machines, 50 table games, a hotel, restaurants, stores and a theater. The construction process on the casino site will begin with earth work, subsurface cleanup, footings, and foundations.

The hotel complex will be located on Riverside Drive on 81st street, which is just south of the current Tulsa Casino. Presently the Tulsa Casino is undergoing a \$6 million dollar renovation itself, which officials said should be completed by the end of the year.

Council representative's dream becomes a reality

by SUZIE JOKI

MNN Reporter

HENRYETTA — In August of 2004, Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee District representative created and presented a bill before the National Council to start a new program for the tribe. The "Reintegration Program" bill was passed and became active on March 21, 2005.

This program started with three employees, to date they employ four. Tony Fish, Program Manager, started with the program as a case worker. His prison correctional background from previous employers has helped him to understand and effectively assist the clients in this program. "I feel my experience working in corrections and my passion in making a difference in the lives of our people helps me to be effective in this position," said Fish. Fredo (Chubby) Anderson, a long time MCN employee, and Andrea Alexander, are case workers for the reintegration program. "They are the cushion between the client and vendor," Fish states.



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Chubby Anderson, Danna Smith, Andrea Alexander, and Tony Fish.

photo by Suzie Joki

may need to assist the client in the reintegration process.

For more information, contact the Reintegration Program at: 112 West Gentry, Henryetta, OK 74437, or call 1-800-259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

This program is designed to assist Creek citizens, who have been incarcerated or soon to be released, with the opportunity to benefit from the Reintegration Program services, such as mentoring/faith-based support, personal counseling and guidance, identification retrieval, job preparation and placement, educational advisor and assistance in meeting immediate needs.

When clients arrive at the local office, they will be assigned a case worker who will help them through the services provided. They will also be given a care package with needed items immediately and a clothing voucher in which their case worker will assist in the purchase of clothes. A computer is available to help assist in job search or any information they

National Council election runoff brings forth additional changes; five seats have changed within three districts

OKMULGEE — On Nov. 5, runoff elections were held for nine seats on the Muscokee (Creek) Nation National Council. Unofficially, five seats will see new representatives take office in the year 2006.

The following is an unofficial list of the seats that have changed: Bo Johnson, Okmulgee - Seat D; James Jennings, Okmulgee - Seat E; Travis Scott, Okfuskee - Seat A; Bill Fife, Ok-

fuskee - Seat C; and Sylvanna Caldwell, Tukvptvce - Seat A. Election results become official once the protest filing period ends, which is Monday, Nov. 14 after 5 p.m.

A total of ten newly elected representatives will take office in January of 2006.

For more information, contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7685.

Veterans Affairs Office honors Mvskoke veterans

OKMULGEE — Amidst thundering drums, bugles blaring, raucous ovations, and even a Blackhawk Helicopter proudly circling above, the Muscokee (Creek) Veterans Day Ceremony was received with tremendous fanfare.

Creek citizens that served in the military and represented its various branches, such as the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, proudly marched with their respective banners in front of a grateful and reverent audience.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill began the ceremonies with a Creek Blessing. The executive and legislative branches of tribal government were represented with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

on hand, as well as a host of National Council members.

This year's theme was "Pass-In-Review," as veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War and Iraqi Freedom wars were represented.

Major Ken Davis, U.S.M.C., who is the Director of Veterans Affairs, was the coordinator of the event. Davis had planned the event for quite a while and was pleased with the day's turnout.

A military HUM-V was on hand carrying flags of the United States of America and the Muscokee (Creek) Nation and followed the veterans as they marched in their parade formations. (see Section C, page 3 for photo review)

reach managing editor Lucas Taylor at: e-mail:lucast@muscokeenation-nsn.gov phone: (918) 732-7634 fax: (918) 758-0824

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I trust that everyone enjoyed Halloween. There were a lot of ghosts and goblins that visited the Complex and everyone went away with a lot of goodies. The National Congress of American Indians is in full swing in Tulsa and we are planning on attending the ground breaking for the American Indian Museum in Oklahoma City. This month everyone will be celebrating Thanksgiving.



The following is a continuation of the story of “Menawa” as told by Thomas L. McKenny & James Hall in the History of The Indian Tribes of North America, 2 Vols., vol. 1 pages 101-113.

Menawa was removed to a place of rendezvous which had been appointed on the Elkahatchee (river of death) Creek, where he was joined by the unhappy survivors of that dreadful battle. For the purpose of brooding over their grief, mourning for the dead, and deciding upon the measures necessary to be adopted in consequence of the recent disaster, a silent council was held that lasted three days, during which time these moody warriors neither ate nor drank nor permitted their wounds to be dressed.

At the expiration of the third day, it was determined that the Indians should return to their respective homes, submit to the victors, and each man, make his own peace as best he might. Their wounds were then dressed by the women, who usually officiate as sur-

geons, as did the ladies of Europe in days of chivalry. The Indians are said to display, under such circumstances, a remarkable tenacity of life, and to recover rapidly from the effects of the most serious wounds, in consequence probably of their active and abstemious (sparing in use of food and drink) habits, rather than of the absence of physicians.

They soon dispersed, and all of them surrendered formally to the American authorities, except Menawa, whose wounds prevented him from leaving his retreat until after the close of the war. As soon as he was able to travel, he sought his home, at the Oakfuskee towns, but found neither shelter nor property. The desolating hand of war had swept all away.

Before the breaking out of hostilities, Menawa was among the richest of the Indians of the upper towns. Like many of his nation, of the mixed blood, he had partially adopted the habits of the white man, keeping large herds of cattle, which he exchanged for merchandise, and bartering the latter with his own people for the products of the chase. He had entirely abandoned the predatory habits of his early life, was the owner of a store, and of more than a thousand head of cattle, an equal number of hogs, and several hundred horses. He carried on a brisk trade with Pensacola, and was known to load, at one time, a hundred horses with furs and peltries. Like the famous Rob Roy, he was by turns a chieftain, a drover, and a marauder, a high metaled warrior, and a crafty trader; and like him, his propensity (a natural inclination) for war was unfortunately stronger than his prudence. All his earnings were now destroyed. He found his village burned; not a vestige remained of all his property—horses, cattle, and merchandise had alike disappeared.

The Oakfuskee chief was as poor as the most abject individual of his band, and has lived in poverty ever since that fatal campaign. He could never be prevailed upon afterwards to revisit the battleground at the Horseshoe. It is believed that he entertained a superstitious dread of the spot, at which he supposed a malign (having an evil disposition toward others) influence existed, fatally hostile to his people and himself. This is not improbable, and is entirely consistent with the Indian character. But this aversion may be attributed to a more natural cause. Men of high spirit are liable to strong prejudices and obstinate antipathies, and Menawa may have felt an unconquerable reluctance to revisit a spot so replete with humiliating recollections—the scene of signal defeat and mortification to himself, as a man and as a chieftain. Napoleon, bereft of imperial power, would have taken no pleasure in retracing the road to Moscow.

Menawa regained his health, resumed his authority over the remnant of the Oakfuskee band, and became an influential person in the Creek Nation. In the conflict of opinion which for many years distracted this unfortunate people, he acted with those who resisted the encroachments of the whites, refused to sanction further cessions of territory, and opposed every measure which would lead to the compulsory emigration of his people.

McIntosh, as we have seen, espoused the opposite side, and when that chief was sentenced to death for having signed a treaty of cession in violation of the known wishes of the majority, Menawa was selected to execute the fatal decree. Between these leaders there had never existed any friendly feeling, nor is it supposed that Menawa would have been seduced into the imprudent measure of taking up arms against the American government, but for the spirit of rivalry mutually entertained, and the belief of the one that he had been deeply injured by the other. The knowledge of these facts, as well as their

SEE SECOND A-4

NATIVEAMERICANHISTORYSERIES

ECONOMY AND PROPERTY

By: Patrick E. Moore
Pre-Columbian Southeastern Mvskoke did not have coin money or paper currency. Their economy was based the exchange, or barter of some type of personal property for the property of someone else that had a value.



Written reports dated in the early 1600’s detail such an exchange between Mvskoke where one artist received three or four tanned buckskins for one well decorated shell gorget. Mvskoke exchanged labor for goods and goods for goods. This ancient economic system was one of total honesty and governed by the principal of reciprocity. There was much gifting and many times one person would give, without any haggling, food or labor to another in exchange for some gift in the future.

Ancient Mvskoke lacking a currency enjoyed one great benefit they did not have a governmental tax system. Mvskoke government was paid for by donations of labor and goods, all citizens were responsible for the general upkeep of the government, its buildings and grounds. Leaders were empowered to organize work parties for the maintenance and upkeep of the public grounds and every household donated food for public events.

The Mvskoke placed no value on the accumulation of wealth this fact was major difference between the economic system of Pre-Columbian Mvskoke and the Europeans capitalistic system, to the Mvskoke a good person was a generous person.

The most serious accusation that could be applied to a Pre-Columbian Mvskoke was for someone to say he or she was stingy. They clearly understood it was better to give than receive, long before the European missionaries intro-

SEE HISTORY A - 6

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICANT: RESERVE MANAGEMENT)
INC.)
)
RELIEF SOUGHT: DRILLING AND)
SPACING UNITS)
) CAUSE C.D. 2005-09479-T
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:)
)
)
NW/4 NE/4 OF SECTION 25,)
TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE)
7 EAST, CREEK COUNTY,)
OKLAHOMA.)

NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission enter an Order establishing drilling and spacing units in the manner hereinafter set forth.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief. Applicant requests that the Commission establish a 40 acre drilling and spacing unit for the Prue, Skinner, Red Fork, Dutcher, Cromwell, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply for the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 14 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma by extending Order No. 201172. Applicant then requests that the Commission establish a 40 acre drilling and spacing unit for Bartlesville common source of supply underlying the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 14 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma, by extending Order No. 82870. Applicant then requests that the Commission establish a 40 acre drilling and spacing unit for the Layton and Cleveland common sources of supply for the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 14 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma. The formation of the drilling and spacing unit and the permitted well location will be determined at the time of hearing.

IT IS ORDERED that this Cause be referred to an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence, and reporting the findings and recommendations to the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, 440 S Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m. on the 20th day of December, 2005, and that this notice and order be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant’s attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action, contact John Elias of Reserve Management, Inc., PO Box 808, Bristow, Oklahoma, 74010, (918) 367-9339, or Lee I. Levinson, 1743 E. 71st Street, Southbridge Office Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74136-5108, (918) 492-4433.

OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION

JEFF CLOUD, CHAIRMAN

DENISE A. BODE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

BOB ANTHONY, COMMISSIONER

DONE AND PERFORMED this 3rd day of November, 2005.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

PEGGY MITCHELL, SECRETARY

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICANT: RESERVE MANAGEMENT,)
INC.)
)
RELIEF SOUGHT: POOLING) CAUSE C.D. NO. 2005-09480-T
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:)
)
)
NW/4 NE/4 OF SECTION 25,)
TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH,)
RANGE 7 EAST, CREEK)
COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.)

NOTICE OF HEARING

STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: Jack Deeringwater/c/o Cherokee Nation Real Estate Services, c/o The Area Director/ Muskogee Area Office, and if the above named individual is deceased, then the unknown heirs, executor, administrators, devisees, trustees, and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such deceased individual; if any of the above named parties designated as executor is not acting in such capacity as executor, then the unknown successor or successors to such party as executor; and all other persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and particularly in Creek County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant, Reserve Management, Inc., has filed an Application in this cause requesting the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma to enter an Order pooling the interests of the oil and gas owners, and adjudicating the rights and equities in connection with the 40 acre drilling and spacing unit that has been requested to be established by the Applicant for the Layton, Cleveland, Prue, Skinner, Red Fork, Bartlesville, Dutcher, Cromwell, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply underlying the unit comprised of the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 14 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma. The interest of the oil and gas owners involved herein and the rights and equities in respect thereto are to be pooled and adjudicated pursuant to 52 O.S. §87.1 on the basis of the drilling and spacing units covered hereby. The Application in this cause states that Applicant has proposed the development of the separate common sources of supply in the drilling and spacing unit involved herein under a plan of development and has proposed to commence such plan by development of an initial well in the NW/4 NE/4 of Section 25, Township 14 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma and that Applicant has been unable to reach an agreement with the owners of the right to drill named as Respondents herein with respect to such proposed plan of development of the drilling and spacing unit and separate common sources of supply covered thereby.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Application in this cause requests that Applicant, Reserve Management, Inc., or some other party recommended by Applicant be designated as Operator of the drilling and spacing units and separate common sources of supply involved herein, including the proposed initial well under Applicant’s proposed plan of development of such units.

IT IS ORDERED that this Cause be referred to an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence, and reporting the findings and recommendations to the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, 440 S. Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m. on the 20th day of December, 2005, and that this notice and order be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

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CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA

JEFF CLOUD, CHAIRMAN

DENISE A. BODE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

BOB ANTHONY, COMMISSIONER

DONE AND PERFORMED this 3rd day of November, 2005.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

PEGGY MITCHELL, SECRETARY

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the August 27, 2005, Regular Session..

August 27, Regular session

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpttce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Veto message:

• Veto override (20-6-0) NCA 05-188, amending Title 19, §5-102 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled “candidate must be registered and take leave from employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation”;

voting no were: **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpttce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpttce; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (25-0-0) NCA 05-002, recognizing the service of National Council representatives towards their constituents;

• died on the floor (24-1-0) TR 05-031, authorizing and adopting the emergency rental assistance policy of the housing division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was: **Jones**, Okmulgee;

• tabled (25-0-0) TR 05-091, terminating the special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, L.L.P.;

• tabled (25-0-0) TR 05-096, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a treaty of peace and friendship between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 05-115, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute the plexar II fixed rate payment plan agreement between the nation and Southwestern Bell telephone, L.P.;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 05-118, authorizing the Okmulgee Indian Senior citizens group to use the great seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the production and sale of decals and lapel pins;

• approved as amended (25-0-0) TR 05-120, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **David McCullough**, attorney at law;

Speaker **Yahola** relinquished the chair to Second Speaker **Berryhill**;

• tabled (13-12-0) TR 05-121, approving the housing business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**,

Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpttce; **Yahola**, Tukvpttce; and **Fields**, Tukvpttce;

Second Speaker **Berryhill** turned the chair back over to Speaker **Yahola**;

• approved as amended (25-0-0) NCA 05-186, authorizing a special appropriation for the Veterans Affairs services office to build an outdoor interviewing and gathering pad;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (24-0-0) TR 05-123, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement between owner and contractor for a stipulated sum between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to renovate the old dental building and repealing TR 05-113;

representative **Wind** was out of seat at

the time of casting of vote;

• return to committee (13-12-0) TR 05-126, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an intergovernmental agreement for the procurement of goods and services between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Oklahoma Correctional Industries;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 05-127, approving the selection of contractors for the division of Housing Project 80-2 and authorizing the Principal Chief on behalf of the Division of Housing to execute contracts with Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise and Harris Contractors for the construction of eleven homes to be located throughout the boundaries of the nation;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 05-129, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board of Directors to carry over fiscal year 2005 funds for the denture program and for the tribal dental program to permit a continuity of service;

• tabled (25-0-0) NCA 05-137, amending NCA 04-010 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to build a new community center for the Eufaula Indian Community) to change the location of said community center;

• died on the floor (21-4-0) NCA 05-138, amending NCA 04-004 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 94-10 (substitute) and establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System) and reassigning the authority for the administration of finance and accounting from the Division of Health Administration to the Controller’s Office within the executive Branch;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Ade**, Tukvpttce;

• approved as amended (25-0-0) NCA 05-139, authorizing a special appropriation to establish a social security assistance program and to create the position of social security liaison coordinator through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation social security department;

representative **Parish** was excused;

• approved (22-1-1) NCA 05-147, repealing NCA 93-67 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating and authorizing expenditure of matching funds H.U.D. CDBG Block Grant B-92-SR-40-0012);

voting no was: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

abstain was: **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• tabled (24-0-0) NCA 05-153, authorizing a special appropriation to West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church for facility repairs;

representative **Ade** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-162, adopting the international building code, international existing building code, international fire code, international mechanical code, international plumbing code, international electrical code and the international fuel gas code for all construction or renovation projects of the nation that occur on the nation’s property;

representative **Ade** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-166, appropriating funds for the renovation of the administration building lobby;

representative **Ade** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-169, enacting conservation code and codifying said

law in Title 23 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-170, amending MCNCA Title 16, Chapter 4 to add the position of game ranger within the Lighthorse Administration;

• approved (21-3-0) NCA 05-173, appropriating additional funds for the special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Hobbs, Strauss, Dean & Walker, LLP;

voting no were: **Ade**, Tukvpttce; **Fields**, Tukvpttce; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-174, authorizing a special appropriation for the purchase of two trucks for the tribal driveways program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-178, amending MCNCA Title 37, §1-102, as amended by NCA 05-013, §2-209, regarding the manufacture and sale of tribal flags by the mound building oversight committee;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-179, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10% for the department of environmental services self-governance compact to expend unused funds;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-180, authorizing the department name change of management information services (MIS) to Information Technology (IT);

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-181, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10% for the department of Human Development, workforce training program;

• postponed (23-1-0) NCA 05-182, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2006 and providing for appropriations;

voting no was: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 05-183, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Children and Family Services Office for fiscal year 2006 for the implementation of an adult protective service unit;

• approved as amended (24-0-0) NCA 05-185, authorizing the expenditure of the Oklahoma Arts Council Grant for the “Warm event Mvskoke Welcome event of the Trail of Tears Motorcycle commemorative ride to Okmulgee, Oklahoma on September 19, 2005;

• return to committee (23-1-0) NCA 05-187, honor society and a pilot project which promotes academic excellence and authorizing an appropriation of funds for the National Council Honor Society;

voting no was: **Pickering**, McIntosh;

• approved as amended (14-6-3) NCA 05-189, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase a vehicle to be used as a fire truck for the Okemah volunteer fire department;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Notaro**, McIntosh; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa;

• return to Health Board (19-4-0) NCA 05-190, authorizing a special appropriation to pay medical bills for a Muscogee (Creek) citizen who was referred for surgery by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and later denied payment by the nation on the grounds that Creek Nation contract health is the payer of last resort;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; and **Williams**, Okmulgee;

representatives **Pickering** and **Nichols** were out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-191, authorizing a special appropriation to the “For

the Love of the Game” organization for fall activities and for the 2006 all-Indian March Madness Tournament;

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 05-193, authorizing a special appropriation for the Mvskoke Stomp Dance group to participate in the Ocmulgee Indian Celebration in Macon, GA, September 16-18, 2005;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-194, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation section 1 of Article V regarding the line of succession of the Principal Chief;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-195, amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at section 1 §(a)(1) of article IX;

representative **Tiger** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (20-0-2) NCA 05-196, authorizing a special appropriation to the Randall Indian Baptist church for repairs;

abstain were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-197, amending NCA 05-106 (amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add a section 2 to article IX)

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-198, appropriating funds for the Duck Creek Casino expansion;

• tabled (12-11-0) NCA 05-200, authorizing an appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce authority for its fiscal year 2006 operational budget.

September 24, Regular session

Absent were: **George Tiger**, Creek; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; and **Cherrah Quiet**, Tulsa; were all excused;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpttce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

Veto message:

• veto (11-10-0) NCA 05-188, amending title 19, §5-102 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled “candidate must be registered and take leave from employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation”

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpttce; **Fields**, Tukvpttce; and **Willits**, Tulsa;

• veto (17-4-0) NCA 05-197, amending NCA 05-106 (amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add a section 2 to article IX)

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpttce; and **Fields**, Tukvpttce;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-003, authorizing the extension of the special services attorney contract between the National Council and Geoffrey Standing Bear, P.C., attorney at law;

voting no was: **Jones**, Okmulgee;

• died (20-1-0) TR 05-091, terminating the special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, L.L.P.;

voting no was: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (19-2-0) TR 05-096, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a treaty of peace and friendship between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma;

voting no was: **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

SEE COUNCIL A-4

HOW THEY VOTED

SEPT. 6, 2005 SPECIAL SESSION

NCA 05-208: A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an emergency special appropriation to financially assist a Creek family with funeral expenses. ADOPTED 7 Yes, 1 No, 6 Abstentions



LOLA FIELDS
TUKVPTTCE DISTRICT, SEAT A:
Voted No

“Recently, I cast a lone dissenting vote on a bill to provide tribally funded special appropriation for funeral assistance for an individual who may have, otherwise, been ineligible. The majority voted in favor with few abstaining. My reasoning was based purely on principal and not personal. While the individual may have been eligible for enrollment, the fact remains that he wasn’t enrolled and for all intents and purposes, was not a member of the tribe (despite opportunities to enroll). I feel that this flies in the face of all protocol for which we, as National Council members, are the standard. In my oath of office as a Representative, I swore to defend and uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee Nation.

That same constitution outlines the requirement by ordinance for any person, or their descendants, whose names appear on the 1906 Dawes Roll to enroll through the tribe’s Citizenship Office. By approving this bill I feel my own integrity has been compromised. What message does this convey to the 60,000 citizens who filled out the extensive enrollment documents and waited weeks for the privilege of becoming a member of the Great Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

reach executive reporter Denise Jacobs at: e-mail:djacobs@muscogeenation-nsn.gov phone: (918) 732-7636

Council

continued from page 3

• approved (14-7-0) TR 05-121, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority;
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-128, authorizing the mortgage assistance program of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-130, authorizing and adopting the rental property collection policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
• return to committee (12-9-0) TR 05-131, authorizing and adopting the rental property admission and occupancy policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-133, confirming the renomination of **Blue Clark** to serve on the Tribal University Board of Regents;
• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-135, authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate and execute a contract to purchase real property in Okfuskee County in Weleetka, OK on State Highway 75 to be used for economic development for the Weleetka Indian Community;
• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-136, authorizing the Principal Chief on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System to execute a product service agreement with GE Healthcare to provide maintenance of equipment at the Koweta Indian Health facility; TR 05-137, lease equipment; TR 05-138, medical systems ultrasound; TR 05-139, Universal agreement and TR 05-140 to purchase equipment;
representative **Hufft** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;
• approved (18-2-0) TR 05-143, authorizing the Tiger Mountain Ranch Resort the use of the Great seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh

and **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee;
• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-144, allowing any Muscogee (Creek) student to attend an off reservation boarding school outside of the tribal boundary area;
• died (21-0-0) NCA 05-137, amending NCA 04-010 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to build a new community center for the Eufaula Indian community) to change the location of said community center;
• tabled (21-0-0) NCA 05-153, authorizing a special appropriation to West Eufaula Indian Baptist church for facility repairs;
• postpone (21-0-0) NCA 05-171, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10% for the department of Human Development, Workforce investment ACT/CSP, to expend the 2005 program funds in order that the grant may be completed;
• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-199, authorizing the expenditure of monies the nation received from the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the purpose of providing fire prevention equipment for tribally owned building within the nation jurisdiction;
representative **Nichols** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;
• postponed (16-3-1) NCA 05-205, establishing the department of tourism and recreation for codification in Title 16, “executive branch,” of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and appropriating start-up funds;
voting no were: **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Willits**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
abstain was: **Golden**, Okfuskee;
• approved (14-6-1) NCA 05-211, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to the Springfield United Indian Methodist Church to assist with expenses for its centennial celebration;
voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillsepie**, Wagoner;
abstain was: **Jones**, Okmulgee;
representative **Hufft** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;
• approved (18-2-0) NCA 05-212, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation festival committee;
voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-216, authorizing a special appropriation to the department of Social Services to provide assistance through the natural disaster program;

representative **Fields** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;
• approved (20-0-0) NCA 05-217, authorizing the expenditure of funds from the NAHASDA IHBG (Indian Housing Block Grant) 2000 investment funds and appropriating the funds to the 2003 Indian Housing plan;
• approved (16-5-0) NCA 05-218, authorizing a special appropriation for the 2005 Council Oak Tree Ceremonies and reception;
voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• return to committee (17-4-0) NCA 05-219, amending NCA 04-110 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation nurse investment and scholarship act and appropriating funds to purchase 10 slots within the registered nurse program at OSU-Okmulgee;
voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• return to committee (16-5-0) NCA 05-225, amending MCNCA Title 17, §6-112, providing for the distribution of profits from the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending MCNCA Title 17, §6-111.b, to reflect changes in the financial reporting schedule of the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise;
voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Golden** Okfuskee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptvtee; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;
• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-226, amending Title 37, §2-213 to allow for the use of the Lighthorse Administration revolving account for undercover operations by the Lighthorse Police Department;
• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-227, realigning funds of the 2005 budget of the Checotah Indian Community to upgrade and remodel the kitchen at the Checotah Indian Community Center to facilitate the accommodation of its elderly nutrition program;
• failed (11-10-0) NCA 05-228, amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution by referendum vote to amend the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution at article VI, section 2, to reduce the number of national council representatives to a maximum of sixteen members;
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Willits**, Tulsa;

representatives **Bible** and **Chalakee** were excused;
• approved as amended (15-4-0) NCA 05-229, amending NCA 05-182 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2006 and providing for appropriation(s) and authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the office of the Principal Chief for the Chief of Staff position and related costs for fiscal year 2006;
voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvptvtee; and **Fields**, Tukvptvtee;
• approved (16-3-0) NCA 05-230, amending NCA 05-106 (amending the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add a section 2 to article IX);
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
• approved (13-6-0) NCA 05-231, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita (M.S.W.) association disaster relief team;
voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;
representative **Willits** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;
• approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-234, authorizing a special appropriation for the relocation of the Social Services Department;
• approved (19-0-0) NCA 05-223, amending MCNCA Title 4, §1-101, B., entitled “establishment of guideline” to establish a limitation of burial assistance funds available to tribal citizens in certain circumstances;
representative **McIntosh** was excused;
• return to committee (11-7-0) NCA 05-202, authorizing the Health Systems to make payment in the amount of \$150,318.00 from third party revenue funds to the department of Health and Human Services as settlement for the Hill-Burton obligations of the Okemah Hospital;
voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Fields**, Tukvptvtee;
• approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-220, amending NCA 03-220 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating language revitalization and establishing the Mvskoke language division);
• return to committee (18-0-0) NCA 05-223, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the division of Health system.

Second

continued from page 2

confidence in the firmness and bravery of Menawa, may have led the Creeks to select him as the executioner of their sentence. He at first declined the office, and requested the council to intrust it to a more impartial hand; but that body adhering to their choice, he accepted the trust, and discharged it in the manner we have related in our sketch of McIntosh.
The subject of this his notice was one of the delegation sent by the Creeks to Washington, in 1826, to remonstrate against the treaty of the Indian Springs, and to effect some compromise which should quiet the troubles that preceded and ensued the death of McIntosh. His conduct on that occasion was calm and dignified, and the force of his character was felt in all the negotiations which took place at the seat of government. He was decidedly opposed to the emigration of the entire Creek people, but was willing to sell the country, reserving certain lands to be parceled out to such individuals as might choose to remain, to be held by them severally in fee simple.
By this plan, the entire sovereignty and jurisdiction of the country would have been yielded, the Creeks as a Nation would have retained nothing, but any individual choosing to continue within the ceded territory, would have had a tract of land granted to him in perpetuity, which would hold under the state government. None would have accepted these conditions but such as proposed to substist by agriculture, or some of the kindred arts, and were willing to submit to the restraints of law. The untamed Indian who preferred his own savage mode of life, would have sought a home more

congenial to his taste in the forests and prairies of the West.
This plan is more consonant with justice than any other that has been suggested; whether it would have satisfied the people of Georgia, or have ultimately promoted the happiness of the Indians, we do not pretend to decide. Failing in this proposition, he succeeded in getting a provision inserted in the treaty, by an arbitrary mode adopted of making the allotment, the tract on which he had resided—his home—was given to another, and the land offered to himself not being acceptable, he sold it and purchased other land in Alabama.
Menawa was not only brave and skilful, but was a gentleman in appearance and manners. Although he was a savage in the field, or in the revel, he could at any moment assume the dignity and courtesy proper to his high station.
Not long after his return from Washington, a gentleman, to whom we are indebted for some of the incidents related in this memoir, called upon this chief. He found him surrounded by braves, engaged in a deep carouse; but Menawa had too much tact to receive his visitor under such circumstances. As the gentleman approached the house in which the Indians were carousing, he was met by an aid of the chief, who directed him to another house, where he was requested to remain until the next morning. The hint was taken.
In the early morning, Menawa was seen approaching well mounted, and in the full uniform of a general officer, from chapeau to spurs—being the dress presented to him at Washington at the conclusion of the treaty. At the door of the house at which his visitor was lodged he reined up his steed, and gracefully dismounted. Advancing with his chapeau

under his arm, and bowing to the stranger, he desired to know the business of the latter which had induced his call. Being informed, he said promptly, “I am now engaged with my people in a frolic. I must return to them, but will see you tomorrow, and attend to your business.” Whereupon he remounted, bowed, and galloped off. Punctual to his promise, he returned on the following morning, and adjusted the matter of business.
Notwithstanding the hostility of Menawa towards the whites, and the injuries he had received, he remained inviolably faithful to the treaty he had made, and the pacific policy to which he was pledged. He said that, when at Washington, he had smoked the pipe of peace with his Great Father, and had buried the tomahawk so deep that he never again could dig it up. When therefore, in 1836, the temporary successes of the Seminoles kindled a contagious spirit of insurrection among the Creeks, Menawa was among the first to tender his services to the authorities of Alabama; and his offer being accepted, he collected his braves and led them to the field, in combination with those of Opothle Yahola.
On this occasion he was dressed in a full suit of American uniform, and affected the conduct of a civilized leader, whose sole object was to prevent the effusion of blood. In addition to his own services, he sent his oldest son to Florida to aid in the defence of the country against the Seminoles. Under these circumstances he had reason to expect that he should be gratified in his ardent wish to spend the remnant of his days in his native land, and lay his bones with those of his forefathers.
He paid a visit to the Catawba Indians, in North Carolina, to see how they prospered under the laws of that state;

and having satisfied himself that there was no insurmountable objection to such a mode of life, used every exertion to be excluded from the emigrating party. He was at last, in consideration of his recent services, gratified with the promise of being permitted to remain. But this act of justice had scarcely been conceded to him when, by some strange inadvertence, or want of faith, he was ordered to join the emigrating camp.
We hope and believe that this, with many other wanton acts of injustice towards the Indians, are not chargeable to our government. The complicated relations with the tribes are necessarily intrusted to numerous agents, acting far from the seat of government, and vested with discretionary powers, which are not always discharged in good faith; nor is it easy for the executive to arrive at the truth in reference to such transactions, where some of the parties are interested, some unprincipled, and the majority both lawless and illiterate.
On the eve of his departure, this veteran chief said to a highly reputable gentleman, who is our informant, presenting him at the same time with his portrait—a copy of the one which accompanies this sketch—”I am going away. I have brought you this picture—I wish you to take it and hang it up in your house, that when your children look at it, you can tell them what I have been. I have always found you true to me, but great as my regard for you is, I never wish to see you in that new country to which I am going—for when I cross the great river, my desire is that I may never again see the face of a white man!”
When it was suggested to him that many supposed his repugnance against

SEE SECOND A-6

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

WIC Program hires new breast-feeding peer counselor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women Infant and Children Program (WIC) welcomes new breast-feeding peer counselor, Cassandra Harjo. The breast-feeding peer counselor will be available to eligible WIC participants.

"I am here to address the concerns and answer questions WIC participants may have about breast-feeding, from pregnancy to motherhood. There are many benefits to breast-feeding, however, breast-feeding has not been the "stylish" thing to do. Expecting parents have several concerns about breast-feeding such as: lack of knowledge, lack of confidence, embarrassment, time and social constraints, fear of pain, and even lack of support from family and friends," said Cassandra Harjo. "The purpose of my job, is to help parents and to provide support to those who choose to breast-feed. In the near future, I will be attending training to become a Certified Breast-feeding Educator. Although my home office is in the Okmulgee WIC Clinic, I will be making monthly visits to our other 12 WIC Clinic sites, within Creek Nation."

For more information, contact Cassandra at (918) 758-2722.

Health System recruiting for Coveta Indian Health Facility

OKMULGEE — The Board of Directors of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at the Elderly Nutrition Center. The Center is directly behind the Creek Nation Housing Authority.

Currently serving on the Health Board are the following members: Charles Coleman, Chairman; Dr. Howard Condren, Member; Robyn Culley, Member; Elizabeth Morris-Gunn, Secretary; Bret Hayes, Vice Chairman; Colbert Hill, Member; Waukomis Lewis, Member; and Lola Fields, Ex-Officio.

If you have any questions or would like to contact a board member, call Sydney Martin, Administrative Coordinator for the Board of Directors at (918) 756-0310.

Great American Smoke Out

OKMULGEE — The Great American Smoke Out event will be held Nov. 17, from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. in the Muscogee Mound Building. This event will be hosted by the Tobacco Prevention Program. For further information, contact Marcus Proctor at (918) 756-6231.

CHR staff receive awards

OKMULGEE — At the Oklahoma Area Association of Community Health Representatives 20th Annual Educational Conference, Christine Wind Roberts was presented a Pendleton blanket, trophy and certificate for 29 years of service to the CHR Program.

Suzanna Franklin received recognition for CHR of the Year from the Creek Nation CHR's. Ace Buckner was recognized as CHR of the Year being nominated by the Alabama-Quasarte Tribal Town for his dedication and contributions to the Hughes County Area.

The Oklahoma Area Association of Community Health Representatives (OAACHR) is a non profit organization which meets monthly with CHRs from the Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska. Each Tribe elects representatives from their CHR Program to attend the monthly meetings.

Christine Roberts is the elected Representative for the Creek Nation CHR Program. Recently, Cyndi Gilks was elected as President of the OAACHR to complete a two year term. Cyndi is the CHR Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and has been with the program since 1997. Also, Gayle Yargee was elected as Secretary/Treasurer for the OAACHR to a two year term as secretary and a three year term as Treasurer.

Third Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Party "Catch the Dream...Find a Cure"

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound building was a sea of pink. Pink balloons, pink tables, and an estimated 300 participants wearing pink on Oct. 12 for the Third Annual "Pink Party," a breast cancer awareness event hosted by the Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC).

Second Chief

Alfred Berryhill opened the event by leading participants in a traditional Creek hymn and offering a prayer. Organizer and moderator Teri Garner, OIHC OB/GYN nurse practitioner, welcomed participants and asked breast cancer survivors to stand. Twenty women stood and were applauded. Garner then asked all participants to stand who knew someone affected by breast cancer and the majority of the crowd was standing — making the point that breast cancer affects

affects many people of all ages and races and can even affect men. With early detection and treatment, however, persons with breast cancer generally have a good prognosis for survival.

Keynote speaker, Beth Cordingley, Executive Director of Y-ME, Northeast Oklahoma Affiliate, praised Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal leadership for allowing tribal employees to attend the event to gain knowledge of breast cancer detection and treatment. Knowledge is the first tool in looking after individual breast health and knowledge can be shared with families and friends. A breast cancer survivor herself, Cordingley entertained the attendees with humorous stories, noting she had become so comfortable with her body after mastectomy that she sometimes forgets to don one side of her breast prostheses and has unwittingly left the prostheses on the dining room table for her grandson to discover.

People should write down and share

with family members what year and at what age a family member was diagnosed with breast or other types of cancer and what treatment was received. This information can be helpful to relatives who may be at increased risk for certain types of breast cancer that runs in families. Take prevention seriously, perform self

The Pink Party has come a long way since 2003. It was first held in the OIHC waiting room with an official \$60 budget and the remaining funding from the pocketbook of the nurse practitioner and clinic physician. A standing room only crowd of 70 attended the first Pink Party.

In search of more space, the 2004 Pink Party was held at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital and had an estimated 200 in attendance. The 2005 Pink Party was able to provide tote bags, t-shirts, refreshments, and door prizes thanks to Creek Nation Okmulgee Casino, Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, Blue Bell Ice Cream and many local businesses and tribal programs. Educational booths were set up by Cherokee Nation Breast Cancer Program, Oklahoma City Indian Health Center Breast Care Program, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, local health organizations and tribal programs, as well as pharmaceutical and laboratory organizations.

The 2005 Pink Party was capped off with the release of hundreds of pink balloons with small cards attached. Calls have been received from people who have found the balloons from as far away as Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, Mr. Amos Rabbit of Okemah, designed the logo for the 2004 and 2005 Pink Party. The 2005 theme for the conference, "Catch the Dream...Find a Cure," was depicted in a logo of a dream catcher with the signature pink ribbon in the center.

Thanks to all sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers, and attendees for making the 2005 Pink Party a success. For information about breast health care or other women's health issues, call (918) 758-2717.



Approximately 300 balloons were released in front of the Muscogee Mound Building in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness month and were retrieved as far away as Fort Smith.

Photo by Mallory Bible

breast exams on a monthly basis beginning at age 18. Individuals can notice changes in their own bodies. Have a yearly clinical breast exam performed by a health provider, usually at the same time as an annual Pap smear.

Mammography is recommended for women over age 40 and at younger ages if other risk factors or symptoms are present. A provider can make referrals for mammography.

If breast lumps or other problems are found, follow the providers' recommendations for follow-up treatment. If diagnosed with breast cancer, seek treatment early and make a list of questions to ask the doctor at each visit to make sure you understand what is happening and what treatment options are available.

A support system is important to persons diagnosed with breast cancer, whether from family or friends or organizations like the Y-ME organization, whose mission is to ensure that persons diagnosed with breast cancer do not face breast cancer treatment alone.

Getting refills on time proves difficult for many Muscogee citizens

OKMULGEE — The clinic staffs and the CHR's report that many people run out of medication before getting their next refill. The Health System's policy of dispensing medi-



cine for only one month might make it a more frequent problem. Now that gas prices have gone up, even more people are having this difficulty.

Removing barriers to receive care, not creating barriers is a goal of the Health System. The one-month refill that may be making a barrier at this time was started because of increasing costs of health care services without matching income. IHS funds have not increased for several years.

Getting insurance for health care services is a way to maintain and improve services. Many insurance companies pay only one-month refills. If three-months supplies are given, the insurance still pays only for one-month. By using the "one-month" policy on refills, our pharmacies have increased their income threefold.

However, at the same time the Health System is concerned that running out of medicines may be contributing to fewer people keeping their blood sugars, blood pressure and cholesterol in good control. The most recent Diabetes Care Audit showed that the number of persons with diabetes having good blood

pressure control has dropped from 40% two years ago to only 28% in 2005.

In solving this problem, the Health System and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens need to work together. When the one-month medicine refill policy was started, the Health System also started offering new ways to get medicines. These include 1) Call-in: Patients can call in a week or so before, but at least 24-hours before, they intend to pick up their medicines. 2) With Clinic Visits: Patients can get their medicines at the time of their clinic visit. 3) Family Member or Friend Pick-up: A patient can ask a family member or friend to pick up their medicines.

Cynthia Dan, pharmacy tech at Okemah, removes patients refill requests off the 24-hour refill line.

Things to remember when using the call in system: Call ahead. If you are down to the last week of pills, call right then. You don't have to wait for the 24-hours before. Name the medicines you need. Name the person that will pick them up. Jack Smith called the 24-hour refill line the week before he ran out and then asked Becky Hill to pick them up. Cynthia Dan, pharmacy tech at Okemah, transfers requests from the 24-hour refill line.

The Health System is looking into other ways to assist patients in getting their medicines. Among other options, a mail order system is being looked into. These options will take time and upfront money - money that the Health System will have to get from billing insurance sources.

Until that time the Health System is asking patients to make their health a priority and make every effort to get their medicines on time by using the variety of ways offered to get their refills.

DOCTOR'S NOTE

Dr. Lawrence Vark, DO, CMO

Fall is here, and it is this time of the year to think about flu shots. Personally, I think that everyone who is able should get a flu shot, but particularly those with chronic illnesses. This would include those with heart, lung, or kidney disease, as well as diabetic patients, the very young and older citizens.

Unlike the early flu vaccines which contained live viruses, current immunizations only use pieces of the virus. What this means is that you can not get the flu from a flu shot. People who are highly allergic to chicken or eggs should consult with their physician before taking a flu shot. This is a great preventive health measure that you can take for yourself and your family.

There have been a lot of news articles regarding bird flu, and we would like to tell you the current status on the situation. A strain of influenza has been identified that is infecting large numbers of birds. Approximately 50% of the individuals that have been infected have died (63 people). Those people were in direct contact with the infected birds, and got sick as a result of that contact. There have been no cases of human to human transmission of the disease. The fear is that the virus will mutate and become infectious from one person to another.

There is no vaccine for this disease, (a vaccine can not be developed at this point because there is not a "human" strain of this flu). The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is keeping a close watch on this problem. We will keep you advised through this column on any additional news as it develops.

Section A, Page 6 MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS November 2005

SURVEY We request your cooperation in responding to the following survey developed by the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to help assess the needs of our Creek Citizens. The information received from this survey will be used to evaluate and hopefully improve the effectiveness of our services. If you have any questions regarding the survey call (918) 752-3231 or 800-259-5050 ext. 3231. MVTO.

Please return this survey to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division,
ATTN: Thomasene Osborn, PO Box 297, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

stitution passing the United States Congress on June 4, 1919 with ratification on August 18, 1920. Finally over four hundred years after Europeans set foot on North American for the at least the second time, Mvskoke principals of government became a reality for the women of the United States and they were able to vote nationwide. Oklahoma elected a woman to the United States Congress within days, who also the first person to serve in the United States Congress able to talk the Mvskoke language.

Flowing Creek Massage

For appointment call:
Marcia Prado, LMT
 cell: 918.269.3318

Ask Marcia about
 your 'Creek' discount



1/2 hour	\$30.
1 hour	\$60.
1 1/2 hour	\$90.

Chair Massage:
 ~ Neck & Shoulders: \$5.
 ~ Neck, Shoulders
 and Back: \$10
 ~ Neck, shoulders,
 back and arms: \$15.

Hideaway Full Service Salon
 949 N. Elm Place - Broken Arrow, OK
 918.251.4082

Loca-pokv and Big Spring Reunion
JENKS — The annual Loca-pokv and Big Spring (Okmvlke) Tribal Town Reunion will be held Nov. 25, at the Perry Ranch located at 11524 South Elwood, Tulsa District. Elwood is one mile east of U.S. 75, and the ranch is between Jenks and Glenpool.

There will be a potluck lunch at 2 p.m. The kitchen will open around 11 a.m. Members of both towns are welcomed to come early or to stay until sunset.

For more information or if interested in volunteering to help, write to: Loca’pokv/Big Spring Reunion, c/o Rob Trepp at P.O. Box 9853, Tulsa, OK 74157-0853.

Police Patrol Officer
MUSCOGEE — The city of Muskogee is accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of Police Patrol Officer. An employee in this class, as a law enforcement officer, performs a variety of tasks in direct contact with the general public and is associated with enforcement of state and federal laws in city ordinances, regulations of traffic, emergency rescue and general public safety activities.

Applicants are required to have graduated from high school or the equivalent as established in validated tests, be 21 to 45 years of age, and take oral and written examination tests of physical agility, health and character as established by the police department. This position description is only a synopsis. A full description is available in personnel office. Start-

ing pay is \$21,070 yearly, with excellent fringe benefits.

All applications must be filed through the City of Muscogee, Personnel Dept., Room 200, 2nd Floor, 229 W. Okmulgee, Muscogee, OK. Applicants may apply in person at 229 W. Okmulgee, 2nd Floor, Room 200, Muscogee, OK.

Deadline for applications is 5 p.m., Wednesday, November 16.

1st Annual Handgame Tournament
NORMAN— Sigma Nu Alpha Gamma, a registered Organization at the University of Oklahoma, are pleased to invite you to the 1st Annual Handgame Tournament on Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. The tournament will be held at the Norman First American United Methodist Church located at 1950 Beaumont Street.

The Handgame will be located in the Church across from Colonial Commons Park. The handgame coordinator is Joe “Fish” Dupoint. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes awarded in junior (18 and under) and adult categories. Food, drinks and snacks will be sold. This is a nonalcoholic event.

Entry fee is \$100 per team. Minimum 5 people per team required, no maximum limit. A round robin competition and double elimination format will be used. Teams must be present at 1:30 p.m. for drawing times.

For more information, contact Homer George at (405) 313-6632 or e-mail hgeorge@ou.edu. Accommodations on the basis of disability are available by contacting Club Adviser, Lindy B. Waters Jr.,

at (405) 325-1468 or lwaters@ou.edu.

Pumpkin carving contest held
OKMULGEE — The Division of Human Development sponsored a Pumpkin Carving Contest on Oct. 20. There were six entries and the results are as follows: 1st place - Headstart, 2nd place - Donna Kaler, and 3rd place - Creek Nation IT Department.

The Division of Human Development would like to extend a big thank you to the following for donating prizes: 4 Love of The Game, Mike Flud, Danna Minnick, Annie Yahola, Massey’s BBQ, and Heart N Soul Cafe. Also, a special thank you to Shelia Buckley for the design of the certificates. Finally, thanks to the Division of Health for judging the event and to all who entered a pumpkin.

Diabetes Conference
OKLAHOMA CITY— A conference designed to assist health professionals in helping their patients manage diabetes is scheduled for Nov. 17-18 at the Clarion Meridian Convention Center located on I-40 and Meridian. “Oklahoma’s Solutions for Diabetes: Beyond the Disease,” will feature national and local diabetes professionals who will share knowledge and expertise for fighting diabetes.

Diabetes continues to be a growing health issue in the United States. An estimated 7.6 percent of the adult population is diagnosed with diabetes, and many more are undiagnosed. In Oklahoma, about 220,000 adults have been clinically diagnosed with diabetes, according to health

professionals at the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

Keynote speakers include: Dr. Thad Leffingwell, clinical psychologist and assistant professor at Oklahoma State University; Dr. Etie Mohgissi, board member of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists; Lanell Olson, managing partner of Ediba Diabetes Center of Excellence; and Dr. Chen-Tan Lin, associate medical professor and senior medical director of informatics at the University of Colorado.

Topics will cover the continuum of diabetes care from patient adherence and the use of technology, to enhanced performance outcomes. Other topics include the economic impact of diabetes in the inpatient and outpatient settings and aggressive inpatient glucose control. The conference sessions are designed to respond to the need for total diabetes care, with topics such as motivational interviewing, inpatient diabetes protocols, sophisticated nutrition, informatics for better patient care, Oklahoma School Health initiative, metabolic syndrome, and prediabetes. “This conference is geared toward anyone that participates in diabetes education and treatment, from the entry level to the senior diabetes educator,” said Adeline Yerkes, Chief of the Chronic Disease Service at the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

The conference is \$98 for registrations received on or before Friday, Nov. 4. For more information or to register for the conference, visit <http://www.dsok.net> or call (405) 843-4386.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Lead Cook Supervisor - ENP
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Two years relevant experience in foodservices or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid food handler’s permit, valid Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

RN Supervisor - Coweta
Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing as an RN or BSN. One year of responsible supervisory experience. Possess current State of Oklahoma Nursing License or ability to obtain license.

Contract Health Services - Technician
Requirements: High School diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience in a medical billing or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver’s License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System
Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services. In addition, candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Staff Dentist - Sapulpa
Requirements: ADDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certifi-

cate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

LPN - Sapulpa
Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee
Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN), or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

Human Resources Assistant
Requirements: Associates Degree in a related field of study. One year relevant experience. Additional experience may be substituted for education. Incumbent must possess current Oklahoma State Driver License and be insurable.

Physician - Family Practitioner - Coweta
Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Masters Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience in the health care management/administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

Physician - Coweta
Requirements: Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and /or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

Staff Dentist - Coweta (3 Positions)
Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or, a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements or a new graduate preferably within an HIS preceptorship (internship).

Clinical Director - Behavioral Health Services
Requirements: A Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited college/university. Five years experience as a licensed psychologist. Five years of managerial or supervisory experience. Current Licensure by the State of Oklahoma as a Psychologist or Health Services Psychologist is required.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okemah (Temporary)
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or a related field is preferred. A minimum of one year relevant experience is required.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okmulgee
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion

of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or a related field is preferred. A minimum of one year relevant experience is required.

Pediatrician - Coweta
Requirements: Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. specializing in Pediatrics. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine, DEA License, Medicare provider agreement and ACLS certification and/or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

Academic Administrators/Registrar
Requirements: Applicants must have a minimum earned masters and senior administrative experience in higher education. Doctorate and experience within academic affairs administration preferred. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Send your cover letter, application, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Att: Personnel Services, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Or fax to (918) 756-2284. For questions or further information call (918) 732-7827 or (800) 482-1979. Completed employment application is required. www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Instructor/Curriculum Specialist
Requirements: Applicants must have an earned masters degree and higher education instruction experience. Doctorate, minimum three years instruction, and knowledge of indigenous curriculums preferred. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Mail your cover letter, application, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Att: Personnel Services, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Or fax to (918) 756-2284. For questions or further information call (918) 732-7827 or (800) 482-1979. Completed employment application is required. www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

For more information visit the on-line site @ www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/health%adminstration/Jobs.htm. Or for contact information by phone call (918) 756-4333 or (800) 782-8291.

2006 School Year Challenge Bowl Competition

OKMULGEE – If you happened to be at the Muscogee Nation complex on Nov. 2, 2005, you probably saw a parking lot full on school buses, vans, cars and just about anything to get students to the Mound building in time for the 2006 Muscogee Nation Elementary Challenge Bowl competition. Indian students from 16 school districts and one Indian community filled the Mound building where there was a sense of excitement and anticipation for the competition to begin. There were a total of 25 teams entered in the competition.

For the past six months, Creek Nation employees and community members have been preparing for this day. There were monthly Core Group meetings, weekly lunch hour work sessions to prepare the study guides, develop the language listing, developing questions, recording the language study guide, complying the 90 officials binders of questions, and conducting training sessions for the volunteers. It was a great deal of work but seeing the faces of the students, their parents and sponsors during the competition and awards ceremony was worth it all.

The competition started at 8:30 a.m. with over 90 Creek Nation employees and community volunteers arriving anywhere from 6 to 7 am in preparation for the competition. The employees and community volunteers assisted as game officials, runners, roamers, setting up equipment, preparing student meals, and a host of other jobs that made the competition such a success.

The Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl has established a sense of pride, heritage and knowledge to our young people and is preparing them to become the future leaders of tomorrow. The Middle School competition will be held on Nov. 9 and the High School competition will be held on Nov. 16.

We would like to thank the Nation Council, the office of the Principal Chief and the Judicial Branch for their support in this effort.

The following is a list of elementary winners:

- 1st place Hanna Dragons
- 2nd place Glenpool Cokv Heckc Leckv Tvstvnvke
- 3rd place Sapulpa Lvmhes
- Sportsmanship Award - Tulsa Remington Elementary



Hanna Dragons



Glenpool Cokv Heckc Leckv Tvstvnvke



Sapulpa Lvmhes

Tribal Grant Awards Increase

OKMULGEE — The Tribal grant awards have been increased to \$1000 for full time students. The Higher Education Scholarship (BIA) award amount is \$1000 for dependent, \$1500 independent, and \$2000 for married students. The Incentive Grant Award (based on 3.0 GPA) is \$500 for full time college credit.

The Higher Education Program application mailouts for the Spring '06 term is during the months of October through December 15. If you have not applied for the Higher Education Grants and Scholarship program, you may do so through written or e-mail request for the Spring '06 term. Please indicate your name and address. The College and University you plan to attend must be regionally and nationally accredited. The student must be a member of Muscogee (Creek) Nation and possess a CDIB card and a Tribal Enrollment card. Apply for free application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA).

High School Students who will be graduating May '06, may send their application request during the month of February for the academic year 06/07.

The Higher Education staff is very proud of your educational accomplishments and congratulates all the graduates.

For further information, call (918) 732-7689, 1-800-482-1979, ext. 7689, Creek Nation Higher Education Administration, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, or visit their website at: http://muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/hum_higheredu_proginfo.htm

Free college course available for Muscogee citizens

WETUMKA — Haskell Indian Nations University is entering into its second semester of on-line classes offered to Muscogee Nation tribal members. The on-line program has proven to benefit many Natives in rural America. Through a cooperative agreement with Wes Watkins Technology Center, located in Wetumka.

HINU have begun a pilot program to offer several college accredited courses to enrolled tribal members. It is now time for spring pre-enrollment and there are limited spaces available. The Muscogee Nation National Council approved funding for two semesters of on-line courses the fall semester, which includes Muscogee Language I, American Indian Poetry, Introduction and Intermediate Algebra, American History and English I. The following is a list of the tentative schedule of courses for the spring semester:

- PHILOSOPHY IN AM. INDIAN LITERATURE (DE) M & W 11:10-12:25
- BUSINESS/TECH WRITING—BLACKBOARD Correspondence only
- GRAMMAR/COMPOSITION TBA
- INTRO TO ALGEBRA (DE) M W & F 1:10-2:00
- INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA (DE) T & TH 11:15-12:30
- INTRO SOCIOLOGY (DE) T/TH 9:45-11:00
- Muscogee Language II (must pass Muscogee I to take this course)
- More courses may be available soon.

The deadline for on-line enrollment is Dec. 23. The applications can be obtained by calling the admissions office and requesting a packet by mail or on-line at the university website.

For more information, call (785) 832-6679, (785) 749-8454, or visit their website at: www.haskell.edu.

Committee holds Third Annual Fall Festival

OKEMAH — The Indian Education Parent Committee of Okemah Public Schools held the Third Annual Fall Festival on Oct. 19 at the Thlopthlocco Tribal grounds to kick off fall break for all Indian Education students. The event was cosponsored by Ron Barnett, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and Thomas Givens, Okemah Indian Community. The activities included a wiener roast, hayrides and games that included the three-legged races, bobbing for apples and tortilla throws. Highlights for the evening were cultural stories told by Cricket Rhoads Connywerdy of Norman and Native American dancing by the Blackbird Dancers/Singers of Shawnee. The evening ended with a fireworks display by Robert Gear of Wald Inc.

The purpose of the festival is to promote parental involvement, provide a fun evening for the Indian Education students and their families, develop a cooperative effort and support system in the Okemah area and to provide an opportunity to meet the parent committee members and OPS staff. This event was an approved activity by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program.

The annual election was held on Oct. 11 to elect new parents to serve on the five-member committee that will serve to meet the unique needs of the Indian students. In the Sept. 19 meeting, the committee voted to change the three-member committee to five members. The committee members' terms will expire in either two years or three years in order to maintain experienced members at all times. Those currently serving on the parent committee are as follows: Dug Sharp, Chairperson; Cassandra Harjo, Vice-Chairperson; Shannon Little, Secretary; David Bencoma, member and Joan Hummingbird, member.

Valeria Littlecreek is the Director of Indian Education for Okemah Public Schools and works closely with the committee to maintain the JOM and Title VII Indian Education programs. The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for Monday, Nov. 28, at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Littlecreek at (918) 623-2867 or Dug Sharp at (918) 650-2591

Creek Nation JOM well represented at National Conference

CHOCTAW, Miss. — A large contingency of JOM contractors, IEC members, and parents attended the National Johnson-O'Malley Association conference held in Choctaw, Mississippi from Oct. 22-26. Representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were 51 participants from 13 schools district and several employees of the Creek Nation.

Five of the Muscogee Creek Nation's Johnson-O'Malley staff attended the conference, where they assisted in the conference planning, conducted workshop and participated in conference activities.

Presently, there are three Creek Nation JOM staff members that have been elected to the National JOM Board. Virginia Thomas was reelected and holds the national at-large representatives position along with being reelected as the Board President. Martha Wind was reelected as one of the representatives for region three, along with Gwen Parish-Bart, Jenks JOM Program Coordinator. Jeri Brandon of the Creek Nation JOM Program is presently serving her second year of her three year term and was elected as the new Associations Treasurer.

The National Johnson-O'Malley Association acts as a liaison for JOM Programs nationwide. It was created;

to mutually develop standards of educational excellence for Indian students served by the educational programs within the United States;

to create an effective forum for discussion of educational and related matters of mutual concern among the members of the educational community;

to maintain appropriate lines of communication and collaborative efforts with other public, private, tribal and federal educators and educational programs;

to maintain formal liaisons with Tribal, State and Federal governmental agencies and other educational organizations, including but not limited to Nation Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association and other alliance organizations; and

to advocate for Johnson-O'Malley programs and the rights of Indian children from three years old through twelfth grade.

Eufaula Dormitory students complete first nine weeks

EUFAULA —The Eufaula Dormitory students have successfully completed the first nine weeks of school. While attending Eufaula Public School, the following students have made the honor roll by having obtained all A's and B's on their nine weeks report cards.

Honor Roll Students for the Eufaula Dormitory:

Jack Eslick, 1st grade; Bryan Hawkins, 1st grade; Alexis Walker, 1st grade; Shania Begay, 2nd grade; Kierra Marshall, 2nd grade; Angelic Shields, 2nd; grade; Ethan Waquie, 2nd grade; Thomas Alexander, 3rd grade; Shakotta Sewell, 4th grade; Haley Wawuie, 4th grade; Brytnee Feeling, 5th grade; JJ Lewis, 5th grade; Ashley Sexton, 5th grade; Ashton Chalakee, 8th grade; Samantha Tiger, 7th grade; and Chuck Screechow1, 10th grade.

If your child is on the Honor Roll and you would like to place this in the Muscogee Nation News please let us know.



Pigeon Church enjoys new church sign



Creek Woman leaves mark in movies



Chancey reflects on a successful career



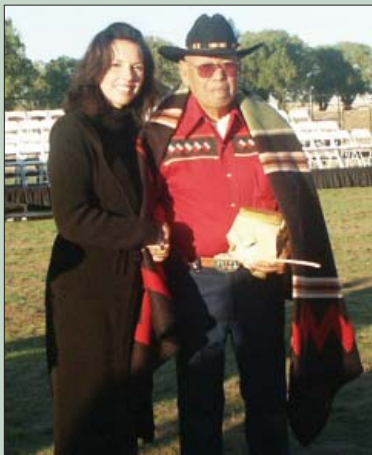
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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

November 2005

American Indian Cultural Center Ground Blessing Ceremony

Este Cate Yoksv Sekon Apokvres
"Indian For Life"



Gena Timberman-Howard and Felix Gouge



Sam Proctor, Mvskoke Etlwv Heles Hayv, conducted a blessing and a victory stomp dance at day break.



Grand entry with Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.



The crowd watched as each tribal representative "fed the fire."



Thirty-nine tribes of Oklahoma in attendance at Ground Blessing with Oklahoma City skyline in view from future AICC.

NCAI 62nd Annual Session

TULSA — Culture Night at Crown Plaza hotel the evening started with a Buffalo dinner. Archie Mason and Mark Wilson served a s E m - c e e . Starting the evening began with c o n - t e m - porary music from Cecil Gray (Kiowa) of Red Dawn Blues Band, followed by Creek citizen, John Timothy, Creek Flute. The



Creek flute player John Timothy performs at NCAI.

Sac & Fox tribe performed the Swan dance and Pipe dance, Delaware tribe youth performed a duck and alligator dance, Chickasaw Nation performed one of the social dances called the stealing dance, and their version of stompdance. Muscogee (Creek) Citizens Stomp Dancers performed Stomp Dance led by Sam Proctor, Steve Morris, and Felix Gouge. The crowd was encouraged to join in which resulted in seven rings of dancers coming from all tribes represented.



Former NCAI President Tex Hall and Tulsa representative Cherrah Quitt.



2004 Nammy Winner Cecil Gray, Red Dawn Blues Band and Creek citizen, Barney Ingram .



Stomp dance is performed by Muscogee (Creek) citizens during NCAI Cultural night .

Stomp Dance Classes

TULSA — The National Indian Monument & Institute (NIMI) will be holding Stomp Dance classes discussing the traditional as well as the academic side of Stomp Dance. The classes will be held on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. The class location has been moved to the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center. The stomp dance class is open for



Stompdance class participants.

everyone that wants to learn more about: history of the 5 tribes; getting healthier in a traditional way and build a stronger family bond. NIMI is looking for volunteers like: stomp dance leader; shell shakers; speakers and willing individuals wanting to teach or learn. For further information, contact Chris Hill at (918) 838-3875.

A message from the Senior Services Manager

The Mvskoke People,
I feel it is only right and my responsibility to inform our people of any trip or outing that involves the elders of Mvskoke Nation.
A total of eighteen elders, including drivers were selected to take part in the journey to our homeland around Macon, Georgia.

We departed from the Mvskoke complex approximately 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 19th. The day was spent traveling toward Memphis, TN. We had a good lunch somewhere in Mississippi. We arrived in Tupelo, MS around dark, after getting our rooms, went out for dinner.

We were on the road again early the next morning. After going around many detours because of construction, we arrived in Macon, Georgia late Thursday afternoon. We got settled into our rooms, had dinner, and rested. We were ready for the festivities to begin around 8:00 a.m. Friday morning.

Friday was school or kids day at the celebration. Some two thousand school children were brought in to the grounds. The morning program began around 10:00 a.m. The Creek Nation portion was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. The Creek youth stomp dancers with Irene Cully and her husband in charge, were the first to perform. After explaining our dances and all things that go with them, the group danced several times then invited the crowd to join them. The people responded and we had many "Creeks" dancing. The creek youth and their chaperones performed and represented our nation well.

Next up, second Chief Berryhill was called on to address the crowd. After his remarks, he said "I'm going to need some help". Almost all our elders in my group answered his call and came forward to help our chief sing some of our church songs. I was very proud of them. Between songs the Chief explained what it must have been like to live here in days past. Also what our people must have felt and gone through when the soldiers came to begin rounding up our people to start the trail of tears march. We must always remember that in this roundup, our people consisted of men, women and children of all ages. After singing four or five songs, we left the crowd by singing "Estimvn Estofis Fulatkis, Vmemekosapacken Vnew Cememekosapares", "Wherever you may be, pray for me, and I will pray for you". Our people must have sang this and other songs on the trail.

We were followed by performances by other groups and tribes from other parts of the country. A group of Aztec Indians from Mexico City rounded out the program. We were asked to sing again in the afternoon which we were happy to do. The rest of Friday was spent touring the grounds, vendors, museum, and the many mounds around the area. Sometime in the evening, it goes without saying, we managed to find time to have a good evening dinner.

Saturday, the agenda was pretty much the same as Friday with performances in the morning and afternoon by all performers. We were invited to sing at a church downtown Sunday morning. We reluctantly had to refuse the invitation as we would be starting our trip back to Okmulgee.

Sunday morning early saw us beginning our journey back to Oklahoma Creek country. Instead of going north to Atlanta then west, we traveled south from Macon then west to Columbus, Georgia. We then went northwest to Alexander City, Alabama to visit the horseshoe bend military national park. Beautiful place there. It was easy to understand why our people lived in that part of the country. I had good feelings as I viewed the park. At the same time I felt sadness as I knew that on this spot some eight hundred Creek warriors lost their lives here in the battles that Indian warriors everywhere were ever engaged in, the battle of horseshoe bend claimed the greatest number of Indian lives. Being full blood creek and former military I was touched and moved visiting this site. Add the losses here to those we lost on the trail of tears and it is easy to see and understand that our creek people have suffered and endured much. But we are still here and will be here for many years in the future.

We arrived in Memphis, TN early evening Sunday. After checking into our rooms, I suggested to the others that although the buffet style meals were good, tonight I wanted "A hamburger and fries and coke". They all agreed and we went to a Wendys for supper.

Monday morning we were on the road back home arriving at Lake Eufaula that afternoon. We took the Latawata Road toward Okmulgee. Somehow we managed to catch up with the Trail of Tears Motorcycle Riders coming to Okmulgee. We followed them all the way in. By now the time was in the afternoon and almost time for my language class at OSU Okmulgee, so they took me straight to school. I arrived just in time to teach while still wearing traveling clothes, T-Shirt and all.

The trip to Macon, Georgia was very worthwhile. Beautiful country, good program, lots of things to see and do. Our Tribal elders that went were very exemplary. I didn't see anything that may have reflected negatively on themselves, family, or our tribe. With the success and enjoyment I saw, I hope to make this a yearly thing.

MVTO and Sincerely,
Jackson Barnett



Pow Wow Dancer performs in Georgia



Muscogee Royalty greets audience as 2nd Chief Berryhill looks on.

Twelve tips to protect yourself from health care fraud

Information provided by Summit Helpline for more information please call 1 (888) 967-9100.

- Only visit your Personal doctor, hospital or clinic for medical help. Only they should make referrals for special equipment, services or medicine.
- Never show anyone your medical or prescription records without first talking to your doctor or pharmacist.
- If someone calls and tries to threaten or pressure you into something - SIMPLY HANG UP THE PHONE.
- If someone comes to your door and says they are from medicare or some other health care company SHUT THE DOOR...IT'S SHREWD TO BE RUDE!
- Do your homework and talk to your health care provider before buying or investing in internet "cure-all" or "miracle" products or services.
- Don't keep mail in your mailbox for more than one day. People steal personal information right out of your mailbox.
- Rip up or shred your Medicare or other health care papers and other important documents before throwing them away. CROOKS GO THROUGH THE TRASH!
- Treat your medicare & Social Security numbers like credit cards. If someone offers to buy your Medicare of social security number, do not do it...it's simply not worth it.
- Remember that "Medicare" does not sell anything.
- Follow your instincts - if it seems too good to be true, it usually is!
- If you suspect an error, fraud or abuse related to health care, gather the facts and report it.
- ALWAYS READ YOUR MEDICARE SUMMARY NOTICE OR HEALTH CARE BILLING STATEMENT! Your Medicare Summary Notice is the piece of mail stamped "This is Not a Bill" that comes in after you get medical care.

THREE THINGS TO LOOK FOR ON YOUR BILLING STATEMENT

- 1) Services that were not ordered by the Doctor.
- 2) Billing for the same thing twice.
- 3) Charges for something you did not get.

"Social Security gets raise"

By Larry G. Jones-SSA Public Affairs Specialist

For Oklahoma's 600,000 Social Security recipients, a cost-of-living raise has been approved for 2006. This 4.1 percent increase will provide about \$39 a month more for the average beneficiary next year and represents the largest Social Security raise since the 5.4 percent increase in 1991.

Over 54 million people in the United States draw payments each month from the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income programs. While raises similar to this one have been in effect for many years, they are not indigenous to the Social Security program. Ever since President Richard Nixon signed the 1972 Social Security amendments, with the exception of 1983, recipients have enjoyed annual adjustments beginning in July, 1975. Prior to that, raises were sporadic and took special acts of congress for approval. The largest cost of living adjustment (COLA) on record was recorded in July, 1980 with a whopping 14.3 percent raise, approved in highly inflationary times. An 11.2 percent raise followed in July, 1981. In the last several years, inflation has been limited and the raises have been much lower. Here's an example of the raises in the last ten years: January, 1996 2.6%; January, 1997 2.9%; January, 1998 2.1%; January, 1999 1.3%; January, 2000 2.5%; January, 2001 3.5%; January, 2002 2.6%; January, 2003 1.4%; January, 2004 2.1%; January, 2005 2.7%; and January, 2006 4.1%.

As you can see, recent raises have been smaller, reflecting lower nationwide inflation. These increases are based on figures derived from the Consumer Price Index. The 4.1 percent COLA will begin with benefits that 47 million Social Security beneficiaries receive in January, 2006. Increased payments to 7 million Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries will begin on December 30. While the raise is welcome, particularly to those senior citizens with limited and lower incomes, the Medicare premiums are going up in dramatic fashion in 2006. Medicare premiums will rise next year to \$88.50, the highest dollar increase since the inception of the program. For those enrolled on Medicare Part B, the increase in this premium reflects the rapidly escalating health care costs in the country. Keep in mind that these annual Medicare increases are mandated by Congress, which requires that participants' premiums cover a fourth of the overall cost of the health care program for seniors. There are some other significant figures associated with the 2006 Social Security changes:

- The 2006 maximum taxable earnings are increasing modestly from \$90,000 in 2005 to \$94,200 in 2006;
- To earn a quarter of coverage under Social Security, it will take \$970 in earnings, compared to \$920 this year; and
- The 2005 retirement earnings test exempt amount goes to \$12,480 as opposed to \$12,000 this year.

The bottom line is; the average 2006 Social Security retirement check will jump to \$1,002, the highest average in the history of the program. The SSI will increase to \$603 from \$579.

To find out more about these new changes and all Social Security programs, logon to <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>.

Larry G. Jones is a public affairs specialist with Social Security in Oklahoma City. To schedule a presentation for your group, email Jones at: larry.jones@ssa.gov.

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Church ActivitiesREVIVALS

Tookparfka Baptist Church
CALVIN — Tookparfka Baptist Church will be holding a revival on Nov. 27, 28, 29 and 30. On Nov. 27, services start at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. On Nov. 28, 29 and 30, services will begin at 7 p.m. The evangelist will be Rev. Clint Sinclair and the music leader is Rev. Joe W. Bruner.

Hickory Ground Indian Baptist Church #2
HENRYETTA — Hickory Ground Indian Baptist Church #2 will be hosting a revival on Dec. 1, 2 and 3 beginning at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The speaker will be J.B. Fish. On Thursday, a devotional by Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church and special guest singer, Tina Washington. On Friday, a devotional by Randall Indian Baptist Church. On Saturday, a devotional by Thewarley Indian Baptist Church.

Church ActivitiesTHANKSGIVING

Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church
OKMULGEE — Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church will be having an All-You-Can-Eat Harvest dinner on Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. The dinner is a fundraiser for church christmas funds. The cost for the dinner is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 10 & under and \$7 for carryout. There will also be whole pies for sale. The church is located (from Okmulgee) three miles east on Highway 62 then turn south on Prairie Bell Road and go two and one-half miles.

Arbeka United Indian Methodist Church
CROMWELL — Arbeka United Indian Methodist Church will be having their Thanksgiving dinner and singing on Nov. 20. The days activites include: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; church service, 11 a.m.; lunch, 12 until 1 p.m.; singing, 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. and dinner, 5 p.m.

Concharty Methodist Church
BIXBY — Concharty Methodist Church will be having their Thanksgiving dinner after worship services on Nov. 20.

Tallahassee Methodist Church
OKMULGEE — Tallahassee Methodist Church will be having their Thanks-giving dinner after worship services on Nov. 20.

Grace Baptist Church
WETUMKA — Grace Baptist Church will be having their Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 20. Morning worship will begin at 11 a.m. with dinner following at noon. Everyone welcome. The church is located at 201 N. Tiger.

Church ActivitiesCHRISTMAS

District Women
PRESTON — The Northeast Region District Women’s Christmas Program will be held on Dec. 3 at Northeast District Center beginning at 10 a.m. The schedule includes a program, gift exchange and dinner.

Senior Methodist
PRESTON — The Senior Methodist will have their Christmas Program on Dec. 9 at Northeast District Center beginning at 10:30 a.m. The schedule includes a program, gift exchange and dinner.

Honey Creek Methodist Church
GLENPOOL — Honey Creek Methodist Church will be having their Christ-mas Program on Dec. 11 after church services in mid-day afternoon. There will be a short program, gift exchange and candy.

Hillabee Church
HANNA — Hillabee Church will be having their annual Christmas Program on Dec. 17 beginning at 6 p.m. Come and join in the celebration and enjoy chili and stew afterwards. For more information, contact Johnny Murray at (918) 657-2275 or Sally Wise at (918) 657-2280.

Yeager Methodist Church
YEAGER — Yeager Methodist Church will have their Christmas Program on Dec. 23 beginning at 7 p.m. There will be candy, gifts, food & Santa. Everyone welcome. The Pastor is Rev. David Dunson.

Thewarley Methodist Church
DUSTIN — Thewarley Methodist Church will have their Christmas Pro-gram on Dec. 24 beginning at 5 p.m. There will be candy, gifts, food & Santa. Everyone welcome. The Pastor is Rev. David Dunson.

Concharty Methodist Church
BIXBY — Concharty Methodist Church will be having their Christmas Pro-gram on Dec. 24 beginning at 7 p.m.

Grave Creek Baptist Church
HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having their Christmas Program on Dec. 25. Morning services will begin at 11 a.m. and the Christmas Program will start at 7 p.m. For ride or directions to church, call (918) 752-0980.

Tallahassee Methodist Church
OKMULGEE — Tallahassee Methodist Church will be having their Christ-mas Program on Dec. 25 with the program after dinner.

Pigeon Church enjoys new church sign

Brother Robert Baker said, “We have to take the sign down and repaint.” We look to Coweta with the sign and gave it to Mr. Johnnie Green.

around to find someone to do job.

Sheri Riley said her father, Johnnie Green could do it.

Brothers, Robert, Bill, Tom & Wes Baker went to church ground & took down the sign and cleaned their grandmother’s grave yard in the morning. At 3 p.m. they drove from Okmulgee



Johnnie Green and Wesley Baker holding new church sign.

I had to get permission from Principal Chief A.D. Ellis for Copy Depot to make 5 inch logo of the Great Seal of Muscogee Nation that goes on sign of Pigeon Church. Chief’s sec- retary, who went to church in 1973 at Pigeon Church went into Chief’s office with my request and he gave the permission. Johnnie Green finished the sign.

Pastor’s CornerWesley Berry, Crosstown Church Okmulgee, Oklahoma

There is a parable recorded in the Bible, Matthew 25, verses 14 thru 30, that tells the story of receiving talents. Realizing that these talents were pieces of silver, none- theless, they represented natural gifts and endowments for the purpose of profiting individuals, communities, and races of people. In this parable, three individuals received certain talents according to their abilities, one received five talents, another two and yet another one. But with that said let me qualify it by saying this, it doesn’t matter where you start its where you finish that counts. It’s the intent of the giver of talents to bless the faithful servant to become ruler over much.

As I pondered this parable, I began to consider, all the people of the world. Every culture, every race has been blessed by the Giver of Talents in receiving natural gifts and endowments for purpose of enhancing the lives of those they come in contact with. Over the years, we must become appreciative of the talents of those who have influenced our lives, by giving their lives for the sake of Evangelism. Be thankful for those, who through their individual struggles and pain, penned the lyrics of the hymnals and praise and worship, that lifts our spirits during times of discouragement. Not to mention, the individual that embraces our success in such a way, that they advise us freely, with that which cost them everything. Thank God for these great Men and Women of Faith that refused to quit. Instead of giving up on the tomorrow based on their impression of today, they fought through the stigmas, the labels, the categories. Knowing this one thing, that our tomorrow would be determined by the way they handled their today.

Sociologists tell us that even the most introverted person in some capacity will be influential in at least ten thousand other people, during his or her lifetime. If this is true, then my friend, We cannot become the third person of this parable, the one who for whatever reason, for whatever excuse hid their talent. I realize there are many dangers that we face in this life, many obstacles, but let me remind us of something, our talent is not just for the purpose of self gratification or self promotion it’s for the purpose of preserving life. Remember what Joseph said to his brothers in Genesis 45: 7, “and God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.” So you see, it’s vitally important not only for your life but the lives of the next generation, that you don’t hide away your talent.

It doesn’t take one very long, to recognize the talents that God has deposited into the Native American. Look around some of the most talented artists, carpenters, mu- sicians, educators, entrepreneurs I know are Native Americans. That doesn’t include some of the GREATEST COOKS in the world. This classification of skill alone gives definition to the talent of our native people. To be successful in anyone of these areas of expertise, starts off by having the gift of vision. For example, an artist must in his or her own mind see the finished painting or drawing. The carpenter must envision the finished project before one board is cut or one nail driven. Scripture talks specifically about vision, in Proverbs 29: 18, where there is no vision my people perish. Also, in Proverbs 13: 12, the word of God says, “Hope deferred taketh the heart sick.” I’m so tired of seeing hopelessness in our people, so tired of seeing them live from pay check to pay check, and dying prematurely. Whether right, wrong or indifferent, for some reason God chose our people to be the ones he would speak to in dreams and visions. But our dreams have turned into nightmares and our visions have become blurred.

What I’m sensing in my spirit, IS NO WINTER IS FOREVER, and what has become permanent and habitual in your life is about to change. No longer is it going to be taken from you but multiplied to you. But what must first occur in your life is for us to recognize our self worth and uncover the talent that God has blessed us with. Quit apologizing for what you are and start living up to who you are. I truly believe, it’s a new season for you, so rise up from the obscure place where you’ve been hiding and prepare yourself for change.

The Giver of Talents in this parable gave to the individual recipient opportunity to flourish, opportunity to succeed, opportunity to be blessed, but the responsibility of fulfillment was up to the individual. You see my friend I cannot blame anyone for my miss cues in life if I haven’t taken advantage of my opportunities. Right now, regardless of the situation around you, make a decision in your life that is going to make a differ- ence. The word of God says, in Proverbs 23: 7, “For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.” You have everything to be successful, victorious, and blessed, at your disposal. But remember this, it doesn’t matter how much money you’ve deposited into your account, it won’t benefit you if you never withdraw what you need. Look into the mirror of life, don’t be afraid of the reflections of disappointment you may see and say to yourself, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me!”

It’s time for you to invest in a life time membership into the YOU CAN FAN CLUB INC., where the only two members with voting privileges and the last word is GOD and YOU. In the beginning of this article, I made a statement by saying, “It doesn’t matter where you start its where you finish that counts.” Then my friend if this truly is the case, then today is the beginning of the New and Improved YOU, no regrets and never looking back again. For if God be for you who in this world can be against you!

I would like to say it has been a great honor for me, to have this opportunity to share a word of encouragement to you the reader. Just maybe something I’ve said will bring a ray of hope to what may seem an impossible outcome in your life. When all else fails you, in your life, remember this one thing, John 3: 16, “For God so loved the world, that he gave (THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL) his only begotten Son, that whoso- ever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. No matter what you’re going through, where you’ve been or where you’re going, JESUS is ready to embrace your brokenness and restore everything back to order in your life.....

BIRTHANNOUNCEMENTS

Isaak Drake Factor Kolby Alexander Factor

TULSA — Isaak Drake Factor and his twin brother, Kolby ALEXander Fac- tor were born at the South Crest hospital in Tulsa on August 22.

Isaak weighed 6 lbs and 1 ounce and 18 and 3/4 inches long.

Kolby weighed 5 lbs and 12 1/2 ounces and was 19 1/4 long.

The brothers are of the Deer Clan, their parents are Daniel and Ellie Factor of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Della Proctor of Okmulgee and Elliot Barnett of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Judy Lasely Proctor of Hanna and the Late Austin and Mamie Barnett of Eufaula.

Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah.

Paternal great grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah.

Isaak and Kolby also have one sister Kaitlyn who is eight years old and one brother, Josiah three years old.



Emily Marie Frye

OKMULGEE — Emily Marie Frye was born in June. She weighed 8 lbs and 2 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Harbie and Cheryl Frye of Guthrie.

Maternal grandparents are Doyle and Donna Vinson of Guthrie.

Paternal grandparents are May Frye of Henryetta and the late Harbie Frye Sr.



Harley Allan Little

ADA— K.J. and Mandi Little of Ada announce the birth of their first child, a son, Harley Allan Little “Hal” on July 1.

He was born at the Carl Albert Hospital.

Maternal grandparents are Allan and Cheryl Harder of Oklahoma City, formerly of Muskogee.

Paternal grandparents are Gerri Little and the late Harley Little of Muskogee.

Great grandparents are Cora Harder of Okla- homa City and Ken and Betty Sanders of Oklahoma City, all formerly of Muskogee.



Brody Michael Pascale

TULSA — Brody Michael Pascale was born on Aug. 15 at St. Francis Hospital to David and Crystal Pascale. He weighed 6 lbs, 9 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Paternal grandparents are Pat Williams of Okmulgee and Clayton Pascale of Vian.

Maternal grandparents are Tom and Kathy Todd of Okmulgee and Richard and Kari Seaborn of McCloud. He has two brothers, Texas and Canyon, and one sister, McKenna.



Addison Rain Vardell

TAHLEQUAH — Addison Rain Vardell was born on August 13 at the Hastings Hospital. Addison weighed 8 lbs and 6 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Hadley Vardell and grand daughter of Candice and Steven Vardell of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are Charolette Pittman Turner and Houston and Connie Turner all of Eufaula.

Paternal grandparents are A.J. Vardell of Okmulgee and Betty Vardell of Duncan.

BIRTHDAYS

Alex and A.J. Alvarez

OKMULGEE — Father and son celebrated their 30th and 9th birthday together with family and friends.

Alex Alvarez Sr. is the son of Alexis Bible Crosley of Bristow and Edward Gene Alvarez of Carrollton, Tx.

His maternal grandparents are Billie Sulpher Scott and the Late Burtis W. Bible of Glenpool.

Paternal grandparents are Cruz Frayre of Dallas and the late Willie Alvarez of Dallas, Tx.



Tayten Dale Fixico

OKEMAH — Tayten celebrated his fourth birthday on October 29 at his Aunt Rene’s house.

Tayten birthday was celebrated with a spiderman theme with Pizza, cake and ice cream.

Fixico is the son of Christina Tiger and Thomas Fixico.

He has one sister, Kyla Fixico.

Tayten’s maternal grandparents are Rosalie Deerinwater of Bristow and Kop and Rita Tiger of Mason.

His paternal grandparents are George Fixico and Faye Holatha of Okemah and Joyce Hale of Okemah.



Hanna Elizabeth Gouge

HENRYETTA — Hanna Elizabeth Gouge cel- ebrated her 9th birthday on October 7th with a slum- ber party with friends at her home.

Hanna is the daughter of Thompson Geebon Gouge Jr. and Jenna Gouge.

Her maternal grandparents are Johnny Boyce of Tulsa and Karen Robertson of Beggs.

Great grandparents are Sylvia and Care Lee of Beggs. Hanna’s paternal grandparents are the late Lutie Sue Gouge and Tom Gouge of Anadarko.



WEDDINGANNIVERSARIES

Thompson & Jenna Gouge

OKMULGEE — Thompson and Jenna Gouge were married on Octo- ber 18, 1997. The couple just celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary with a din- ner celebration.

Thompson and Jenna are both cur- rently employed with the Muskogee (Creek) Nation.

They currently re- side in Henryetta with their three children, two daughters, Hanna and Madeline, and one son, Lance.



MUSCOGEEPEOPLE

Cameron Chesbro

PAWHUSKA — Cameron Chesbro recently completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts of Ameri- can and was presented his award on Octo- ber 23. Only 4 percent of all Boy Scouts earn this special award.

He is the son of Randi S. and Capt. Robert F. Chesbro, Jr. MD, USPHS in Pawhuska. Cameron, a senior honor stu- dent at Pawhuska High School, is a 12 year member of Boy Scouts of America and is in Troop 33 led by Frank Reeves.

His other awards and advancements in Boy Scouting include Scout, Tenderfoot, 2nd Class Scout, Star, Life, Arrow of Light and Order of the Arrow. Besides achieving these ranks he also had to earn a total of 21 merit badges and plan and carry out an Eagle Scout project.

Cameron’s project was to build and install bat houses on the Osage Agency Cam- pus. Cameron is involved in many activities, organizations and sports at Pawhuska High School as well as community activities. He was a delegate to Boy’s State this past summer, a member of the State of National Honor Societies, “A” Honor Roll, Top 10% of High School, Who’s Who Among American High School Students and Mu Alpha Theta and has played in the marching and concert band at PHS for six years.

Cameron was also vice president of his junior class. In high school he has partici- pated in football, base- ball and wrestling, Key Club, Business Profes- sionals of American, Native American Stu- dent Association, Stu- dent Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Spanish Club, and Chess Club.

Cameron is also an OBI and American Red Cross Blood donor. He is a member of First Baptist Church and the Muskogee (Creek) In- dian Tribe of Oklahoma.



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Creek woman leaves mark in movies

“He asked me, ‘Selina, do you love to act?’ I said yes, he said” ‘then why are you here?’”

By GERALD WOFFORD
MNN Staff Writer
OKMULGEE — Lights, camera, action! So goes the standard verbal orders and process in making a full scale movie production. Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Selina Jayne knows those commands all too well. Jayne spent fifteen years out on the west coast working as an actress and accomplished makeup artist. Jayne is even an enterprising entrepreneur, who owns Creek Girl, LLC.

Her decision to move from her hometown of Eufaula, Oklahoma to the busy town of Los Angeles, California was not made overnight, but involved a lot of soul-searching and care. “I’ve always enjoyed acting, and I was involved with local productions, like the Tulsa Indian Actors Workshop,” says Jayne. At this time in her life, Jayne was beginning to really look at where she wanted to be in life.

During this time, the acting troupe was producing the play ‘Lil Abner’ and invited another accomplished Muscogee (Creek) citizen of stage and film, Bob Hicks, to come and help. Hicks was invited from California to be a guest-director. One night, after the play was over, Hicks and Jayne met and talked about future plans. “He (Bob) asked me ‘Salina, do you love to act?’ ‘I said yes,’ he said ‘then why are you here?’ Jayne had to seriously ask herself what she exactly wanted to do. “Six months later, I put my home on the market and I left,” says Jayne.

Now the Creek woman would head toward the West coast and begin to make her mark. A life-changing decision like this was rooted in her at an earlier age, in the friendly confines of the Eufaula Public School system. Jayne considers herself an actress first and foremost, and became interested after taking a speech class in high school. The decision to take this course wasn’t exactly easy for a once very shy Indian girl. “I was actually put in a speech class while in High School,” says Jayne, who admits that she was scared to death of attempting to even talk in front of people. “I went to the counselor’s office,” remembers Jayne, “the counselor’s name was Mr. Harriman, and I said to him, I don’t want to be in this class! I was practically in tears, and I was begging to get out! I knew I had to stand up in class and I knew I just couldn’t do that. But he encouraged me and calmly said ‘Why don’t you just go today. You will learn how to speak in public, you might even become Creek Princess someday.’ “I laughed and said yeah, right.” ‘Well, at least give it a try. If you don’t like it, we will change it tomorrow.’ he said.

Jayne remembers nervously going back to the class and being asked to stand up and introduce herself, something that all the students had to do that first day. “The teacher made me introduce myself,” said Jayne, “and it wasn’t so bad. So I told Mr. Harriman I wanted to go ahead and

stay the rest of the week. I ended up graduating as the outstanding senior of speech and drama. My sisters began to notice a big difference in me after that,” says Jayne.

Once she settled in Los Angeles and Hollywood, she would have to get used to a high speed life-style, in both her career and socially. “LA is really fast paced,” Jayne explains. “You don’t make a lot of friends and it is such a melting pot. People really do move all the time.”

But she had really made the commitment and had a do-or-die mentality toward reaching her goals. She had to, for she had been taught that was the actor’s mentality all along. “Acting is really hard, and you really have to be willing to starve for it,” says Jayne. “If you really want to be an actor, you have to concentrate on just that. You have to make yourself available. You have to be totally on call and ready to go all the time.” Jayne made that commitment, she got herself an agent and auditioned and tried out for each and every part that came her way.

She began to get noticed and received parts in movies such as “Three Ninjas Knuckle Up,” “Stolen Women, Captured Hearts,” and “Grizzly Adams-Treasure of the Bear,” “I also did a lot of low-budget nonunion stuff,” laughs Jayne. With the film work happening in Hollywood, Jayne was able to receive her SAG (Screen Actors Guild) card, a must for anyone wanting to work in the film business on the West coast.

Her desire to act continued to be the same. Sure, the glamour and glitz of bright lights and flashing cameras would be nice, but Jayne knew that as long as she was acting and doing her craft, she was happy. At the same time, Jayne was beginning to study other aspects of the filmmaking process, such as producing, directing, and even makeup. She knew how to do makeup, after all, many of the parts that she had tried out for required her to apply her own facial appearance.

“It was my income while I was trying to pursue acting,” says Jayne of working as a makeup artist. “I enjoyed it. It was often my bread and butter. I didn’t know it was as competitive as acting, but I was very blessed to be recommended and began to be very busy.”

Soon, she was doing work on such shows as “Boston Public,” “The Practice,” and “That 70’s Show.” “I became very busy,” admits Jayne, “working on the various shows that I did, and they (actors) came to depend on me. The actors and actresses want you to make them look the way they look, to make them look good.”

Because of her dependability and many recommendations, she quickly establishing herself as one of the top makeup artists in Hollywood. So much so that in 2001, she was awarded for her craft in the movie “Mullen Drive,” a film directed by David Lynch. Jayne was grateful for the recognition. “I got an award from the Hollywood Makeup and Hairstylist Guild, which was better than an Academy Award because it was from my peers,” says



Jayne. While working in Hollywood, Jayne became friends with such stars as Val Kilmer and Carrie Fisher. “Harrison Ford is funny,” she said. “He is such a clown, always joking.” “Actor Christopher Walken is seen as a little strange, but still a nice guy. Tom Cruise is nice and very charismatic. He just lights up a room and really cares about the people he works with. He came up behind me one day and offered to carry my chair.”

The Creek woman has now found her way back home to the peaceful surroundings of McIntosh County, even purchasing some land and building a house near her mother’s home, which is located on the family’s original allotted land. The thoughts of coming home and being around family was always strong and continued

to tug at her heart. She continues to control her Creek Girl, LLC business interests and has opened a Merle Norman store in Eufaula. The business is looking forward to a special one year anniversary in mid-November.

Jayne would also become a Christian, dedicating her other talent, singing, to her church’s praise and worship team. She would even connect with her old high school sweetheart.

The bright lights of Hollywood may be in Selina’s rearview mirror, but she will always have a love for acting, and has even considered Christian theatre.

Whatever road this Creek woman chooses, odds are it will be an interesting and enjoyable one.



Pictured above is Selina Jayne and Actress Cameron Diaz

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Community Dinners

Dustin Community — Thanksgiving dinner on November 19 at 6 p.m.

Dewar Community — Thanksgiving dinner on November 17 at 11 a.m.

Koweta Community — Thanksgiving dinner will be November 18 at 6 p.m for registered members only.

For more information contact the center at (918) 486-7764.

Okfuskee Community — Thanksgiving dinner on November 24 at 3 p.m.

Oklahoma City Community — Christmas dinner and program will be on December 9 at 6:30 p.m at the Glorietta Baptist church.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. The Buck family from Holdenville will provide music. OCMA members are asked to bring a vegetable dish or desert.

The church is located at 7308 S. Western . Take I-240 exchange heading West and take the Western exit heading north. Parking is in the back of the church. Everyone is welcome.

Community activities

Fall festival and flea market scheduled

Twin Hills Community — Will be holding a fall festival for members of the community on December 4 at 2 p.m.

All members are asked to bring a pot luck dish.

On December 10, we will be having a Indian taco sale and flea market from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information contact the community center at (918) 733-9117.

Turkey give aways to members

Checotah Community — The community will be giving away turkeys for Thanksgiving for community members only. The date has not yet been determined.

Monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. For information on when turkeys will be given out contact the center at (918) 473-5290.

Center implements incentive program

Holdenville Community — The community meetings are held every second Tuesday of each month.

A Christmas dinner and program will be December 3 at 11 a.m.

The center has sponsored a program in sponsorship with the Holdenville Public Schools JOM, to implement an incentive for better academic grades for our Native American Students. The reward is a Wal-Mart gift card for those students who make B's or better. This is one way our community center is committed in supporting ours students in this community.

For more informations contact the center on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays until 2 p.m. at (405) 379-5596.

Tulsa announces new board members

Tulsa Community — The newly elected board members are: Carol Morris, Chairperson; Debbie Ridge, Vice Chair; Jane Cornell, Secretary; Roselyn Bunny, Treasurer; Forbes Perkins, Sergeant of Arms.

On November 17, Thanksgiving

Happy Holidays from the California Creek Association



Update on networking community centers

OKMULGEE— Bristow, Holdenville, Okmulgee, Checotah, Sapulpa and Tulsa community centers have received surplus computers and have prescribed to Yahoo-DSL for their internet service. These seven communities will be the models for all other sixteen communities to obtain their own DSL connections and join the tribal network.

These seven community centers will use this network to be informed of upcoming events at the Creek Nation and also gain service forms via our web page. Yahoo-DSL service is a broadband internet connection which would cost the community centers around \$29 to \$49 per month, depending on your area. This broadband connection will allow the community to view video clips and a possibility of viewing National Council meetings and cultural events in the future via our web page.

Some community center are creating computer labs and classes for citizens with the assistance of Creek Nation's IT department.



Ron Raper, IT Manager, shows members of the Tulsa Indian Community how to utilize the information highway.

If your community center is interested in joining this network, please contact Ron Raper, IT Manager at (918) 732-7767 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7767. Again our web page address is www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Office of Child Care Resource and Referral Mobile Unit visits communities

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care provides educational materials on the mobile lending library which we call our resource unit.

The resource unit is operated through our Resource & Referral department. The Resource unit is available for all child car providers and parents who participate in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Care assistance program. On board the unit is educational toys and other items that can be checked out for a month at a time, free of charge. There is also available, a copier machine and laminator that providers can utilize free of charge. We also provide assistance creating resumes' for parents seeking employment.

Monthly newsletters and quarterly calendars are sent to all providers and parents for dates, times and places the Resource unit will visit.

The main purpose of the Resource unit is to reach all providers who are not able to visit our office. Many of our home providers including grandparent providers find this very helpful.

The goal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care is to provide high-quality, developmentally appropriate care and education to young children. The programs focus theories and techniques to help children grow physically, intellectually and emotionally. We strive to develop the foundation for positive lifelong learning experiences.

By—laws and constitution workshop a success

OKMULGEE — The workshop held on Oct. 22 was a great success. The Department of Community Research and Development conducted a workshop for the chartered Creek communities on the newly revised by-laws and constitution.

We had members present from the following communities: Bristow, Checotah, Dewar, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Koweta, Muscogee, Okemah, OCMA, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Twin Hills and Weleetka.

We would like to thank each and everyone who brought in side dishes.

We would like to say thank you to the

presenters and their respective departments: Phil Booker, Joyce Pinkly, Dean Williams, Steve Wilson and last but not least Kevin Dellinger.

For all of the communities that were unable to attend, contact the Community Research and Development office at (918) 732-7963 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7963.

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STELLA PIERCE ROBERTS

OKEMAH—Funeral services for Stella Roberts were held Nov. 5 at the Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church, officiated by Reverend Wayne Harjo.

Mrs. Roberts was born Feb. 18, 1921 to Parlie Bear Douglas and Jacob Pierce. She was employed with Muscogee (Creek) Nation for 10 years as a Community Programs Coordinator, retiring in 1985.

Stella has been the Women’s Leader, and a member of Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church since 1943.

Roberts was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, Cainey Roberts; three brothers, Stanley Douglas, Elmer and Walter Jones; two daughters, Patty Factor and Mary Leitka; and two infant sisters.

Survivors include: six children, Patsy Pigeon, Wynema, Carney, and Roy Roberts, all of Okemah, Cainey Roberts, Jr. of Holdenville, and Louise Roberts of Weleetka; one brother, Harry Douglas of Okemah; 17 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, as well as a host of friends and other relatives.

Interment was held at the Roberts Family Cemetery.

LULA D. SORGEE

JACKSONVILLE, Flor. — Funeral services for Lula Sorgee were held Oct. 18 at the Kelley Memorial Chapel with Father Brian Brooks officiating.

Lula was born May 7, 1921 to Albert and Leah (Frank) Moore and attended St. Paul’s Catholic Church in

Eufaula. She was an employee of Bell Telephone for years, a caterer for ten years, and a dedicated member of the Eufaula VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Felix Sorgee, her parents, two brothers, and five sisters.

Survivors include: three children, Felix Sorgee, Jr. of High Bridge, New Jersey, Vicky Lynn Coles of California, New Jersey, and Sue Ann Webster of Garner, North Carolina; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at the Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

GLORIA JEAN ROBISON STEEL

ARCATA, Calif. — Memorial services for Gloria Steel were held Oct. 29 at the Abundant Life Christian Center, under the direction of Abundant Life Women’s Ministries.

Gloria was born June 1, 1946 to Jean Britt and Joe L. (Buddy) Robison. She was from Thlopthlocco and of the Deer Clan.

Survivors include: three children, Duke Rose, Amber Young, and Tammy Rose; three siblings, Deleana Clark, Debbie Husband, and Eddie Robison; and other loved ones who greatly miss her.

EASTMAN WHITLOW, JR

MORRIS — Funeral services for Eastman Whitlow were held Oct. 27 at Trinity Baptist Church with Reverends John Tulsa and Marvin Lowe officiating.

Eastman was born July 23, 1947

to Eastman, Sr. and Rosana (Harper) Whitlow. He was a member of Thewarthle Indian Baptist Church, and employed as Manager of Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Trade and Commerce Department.

Whitlow was preceded in death by: his father, Eastman Whitlow, Sr., one brother, Norman Whitlow, and one grandson, DeShawn Bradwell.

Survivors include: mother, Rosana Whitlow of Dustin, wife, Roberta (Sleeper)

Whitlow of the home; four children, Michelle, Tia, and Edmond Whitlow all of the home, and Kristie Bradwell of Lawton; one granddaughter; five siblings, Rubeen Hicks of Sapulpa, Sharon Lowe of Weleetka, Rufus Whitlow of Okmulgee, Leroy and Troy Whitlow, both of Dustin.

Interment was held at the Morris Cemetery.

JIM NATHANIEL KELLEY

GLENPOOL — Funeral services for Jim Kelley were held Nov. 11 at Hickory Ground #2 with Rev. Josh Harjo officiating.

Kelley, a resident of the Henryetta area, died peacefully Monday evening, Nov. 7, at Tulsa Regional Medical Cen-

ter surrounded by his family.

He was born Aug. 18, 1933 in Henryetta to

Dave Kelley and Lizzie Fields. He was a member of Hickory Ground #1. He had a love for fishing, drinking coffee and a taste for sweets. He loved to visit with family, friends and meeting new ones. He was always there for anyone who needed anything. He loved being with his brother and sisters, children, grandchildren, and his great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dave Kelley, Mother, Lizzie Fields, brothers, Abelo Fields, Sam Kelley, and Walter Taylor, Sr., Sisters, Dolly Kelley and Opal Rose.

He is survived by his brother Mitchell Taylor, sisters, Mary Kelley and Addie Lewis, Children, Gwen Kelley, Glenn Kelley and Annette Kelley, one grandson, Keith Tulsa, five granddaughters, Richenda Kelley, Valerie Kelley, Glenda Kelley, Kristi Tulsa, an Tosha Kelley, Two great grandsons, Jose Kelley and Frankie Reed, three great-grand-daughters, Kaycee and Kaly Tulsa, and Helen Kelley.

Interment was held at the Taylor Family Cemetery.



Letters to Editor

Representative attends meeting

Editor:

West Hollywood Park was the site of the Second Annual Gathering of the California Muscogee (Creek) Indians on July 23. What a great event! Hot weather didn’t prevent great attendance and socialization. Also, I had the privilege to meet and hear the concerns and issues of our California Muscogee (Creek) Citizens.

Thus, an honor to be asked to participate as part of the guest panel, I tried to answer your questions as knowledgeable and honest as I could. The ones asked one-on-one, some I answered, and others, I directed you to the appropriate person for an answer.

Friday, we met with the Southern California Indian Center, Torres’ Martinez Tribal TANF, and the United American Indian Involvement (UAI). As a result, I enhanced knowledge of other tribal programs or services and how they are offered. Therefore, this was a very eventful and productive day.

Now, I would personally say Mvto to the California Muscogee (Creek) Association for permitting me to be a participant in their gathering. Also, the fantastic people that volunteered transportation to/from meetings, dinners, and the airport; I especially say Mvto!

Finally, I look forward to an invitation to attend the next gathering. Again, Mvto. **Sue Johnson, Muskogee District Representative**

Woman seeks pictures

Editor:

Does anyone have pictures of Chilly McIntosh, 1800-1875, or of any of his children or grandchildren? I am writing a biography of Chilly, my great-great-Grandfather, and only have the one picture of him in old age.

Also, pictures of the other mixed bloods, Scots/Creeks, or their children who came with Chilly on the boat facility from Georgia to Indian Territory in 1828.

It would also be much appreciated to use photos in my book. I will reimburse with a copy of the book as soon as it is completed. Please remit all photos: Billie Jane McIntosh, 3281 West Lois Lane, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

Billie Jane McIntosh, Flagstaff

Director thanks National Council

Editor:

I want to say thanks to Lola Fields for

sponsoring a bill to help the newly-formed Disaster Relief Team which will be serving all of the United States and the Muscogee (Creek) people, should a disaster occur here.

Fred Lindsey is the Director of Missions and L.C. Franks is the Men’s Ministry Director of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Association.

Harold Naylor, his son Benjamin, Fred Lindsey, and L.C. Franks spent a week in New Orleans, Sept. 23 - Oct. 1. We met other chainsaw teams to remove trees from driveways, doorways, and rooftops.

We will have more teams going down in November. We used other teams’ equipment, but in November, we will have our own trailer and equipment.

Again, I say thanks to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for their quick response in meeting our needs.

L.C. Franks, Holdenville

Rodeo club expresses appreciation

Editor:

Wow! What a weekend we had at the 50th Annual Okmulgee County Round Up Club Rodeo. I would like to thank you for your support and patronage during this event. Your contributions were a major part of the success we attained this year and I wanted to extend my appreciation.

The Claude Cox Omnplex has served as host to this event for several years now, and we look forward to another year in 2006. Our continued partnership is vital to the success and continuation of this event at the Omnplex. We recognize and welcome the additional revenue that it brings to the area and believe it to be an event that is beneficial for all parties.

Again, on behalf of the Okmulgee County Round Up Club, Thank you.

Kenneth LeBlanc, Okmulgee

Citizen thanks Chief Ellis

Editor:

Chief A.D. Ellis gave approval to our concerned citizens group for a meeting with James Pratt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Controller. Pratt presented excellent information on the financial status of Creek Nation. We appreciate Chief Ellis’ approval and Pratt’s taking time from his busy schedule to help us understand Creek Nation’s finances.

Sincerely,

Jorene Anderson Coker, Okmulgee

Citizen expresses concern

Editor:

The September 6, 2005 special ses-

sion of the Muscogee National Council appropriated our Muscogee Creek Nation funds for burial assistance of a non-enrolled Creek. On the surface, this sounds noble and compassionate and all would agree a kind gesture in a time of need. Indeed, we share sorrow for the passing of a son this family suffered. The few Council members present at the September 6th special session, apparently illegal as described by Council Representative Barbara Gillespie displayed total disregard for our laws. The September 6th special session exposes the lack of respect and obedience of our laws. Not from ordinary Muscogee Creek Nation Citizens, but from the very people who enact our laws. It is very disturbing, disappointing and shameful.

Bills that become ordinances or laws, create policy, policies are law and no one is above the law, including legislators. Recently, our National Council increased burial assistance from \$2,000 to \$2,500 for enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens by enacting a bill. This became policy. All enrolled Muscogee Creek citizens are bound to this policy.

Yet, we have legislators that side step, ignore, and push aside the very policy Muscogee Creek Nation citizens are confined, and appropriate burial assistance to a non-enrolled Creek on a compassion basis. The McIntosh Councilman involved mentioned he has that power. No citizen has power to be exempt from our laws not even our National Council. Our constitution, although vague, does not grant council members immunity from our laws, therefore no such power exists. My council representatives were involved with this incident as well, in fact one increased the amount from the original request of \$2,000 to \$4,400 and seconded by my other council representative. After the primary election, they no longer represent our district. When told that they broke our laws, our council representative stated, “We break laws all the time”. Has our National Council malfunctioned?

This special appropriation is a hard slap on the face of our full-blood Grandparents, and their families that bury them. I share sorrow with the loss of this young man. My sisters and I suffered the loss of our father earlier this summer. Our church, Salt Creek, endured two losses of life this summer, and combined received less from the Muscogee Creek Nation than the special appropriation expended by the group of councilors at this special session.

It is easy to feel compassionate with someone else’s money. What was lawful and moral at the time of the request was adhere

to laws in place. A more tangible display of compassion would have been for the council members to take money from their pockets and start a fund for this young man. Soliciting funds from churches and chartered communities would have been a more appropriate option.

The actions of these few members damaged the credibility of the National Council. It also borders on the criminal, considering the amounts illegally expended. My only hope is that this is only an isolated breakdown of government, an isolated event that we can avoid in the future. If not, we cannot stand and proclaim our government sound and legitimate.

Lyle K. Deere, Muskogee

Citizen thanks Communications Dept.

Editor:

Mvto, for putting our ad in your paper about our Jones Academy Reunion. We had at least six of our Creek/Seminole’s among all the people that attended this event. Others called with intentions to attend, but for some reason they were unable to attend (I hope it wasn’t for health reasons), but we are thankful for the following; Art Bruner, Jr., David Hill, Dewey Hill, and John Billy.

We hope to see they all return next year. And for all those that called, we do hope they can attend our next reunion. Again, Mvto!

Jimmy Bruner, Antlers

Woman expresses appreciation

Editor:

I would like to thank the following people for their help while recovering from an unfortunate accident; my daughter, Tina Dee for helping me around, Hattie Birdcreek, Stephanie Benyhill, and Thomasine Fife for helping her cook, and Paul Cook for building a ramp.

Sincerely,

Joyce Thompson, Yardeka

Candidate expresses appreciation

Editor:

Just wanted to thank everyone who supported me through their votes, prayers, encouragement, endorsements, and contributions in this past tribal election. I appreciate all of you.

We lost the race but the war of injustice to our citizens is still going on and that we as citizens or tribal officials must endeavor to bring forth to light and overcome...OKISCE.

Mae Jackson, Okfuskee District

HOT CORNER

by
JASON SALSMAN

Welcome to another edition of The Hot Corner! I must say as a die-hard baseball fan I'm a little sad to see the season come to an end. I know it gets long and there are too many games during the regular season, I can admit that, but it's still hurts knowing that I won't be able to hear the crack of the bat until early April. I want to send out a congratulations to the Chicago White Sox for winning the world championship over the Houston Astros. Not only did they pay back the Astros for beating my beloved St. Louis Cardinals in the National League Championship series, but ended one of baseball's longest championship droughts in the process. Now that the Southsiders have taken this year's series, Chicago Cubs fans are all alone in their misery hoping and praying that next year might just be their year. The recent success of the Red Sox and White Sox is a testament that anything can happen, so Cub fans shouldn't lose hope.

So baseball is done, I might as well get over it because there is plenty in the sport's world to get excited about. This past week the NBA season kicked off, and for people in Oklahoma there is a little more meaning to this now than in year's past. Oklahoma City is hosting the New Orleans Hornets this year at the Ford Center and the place was rocking on opening night. The Hornets, a team that struggled mightily last season, fed off the energy of the sold-out Oklahoma crowd and destroyed the heavily favored Sacramento Kings. The atmosphere was electric and it was a testament to the people of Oklahoma and the support and love of sports that is showcased in our state. This game might not end up foreshadowing success for the Hornets this season, but it was a great start.

For all the fans that don't really have a preference for the pro game, don't get discouraged. College basketball is cooking up and the state boasts one of the best teams, with Kelvin Sampson's Oklahoma Sooner squad currently sitting at sixth in the preseason polls. Let's hope reality matches preseason expectations in Norman. One of the biggest attractions throughout Oklahoma each year is the high school basketball season. Fans flock to Oklahoma City's "Big House" and other venues for the state playoffs, but these opening months are where teams take shape and come together and it's fun to watch. Some of the Indian schools, such as Riverside and Tahlequah Sequoyah, have been successful making consecutive trips to the state championship tournaments in boy's and girl's basketball. The Sequoyah girls look to have a strong year, led by sophomore phenom Angel Goodrich. Sequoyah girls head coach Bill Nobles calls Goodrich the "best player I've ever seen." That's high praise coming from a guy that has been around the game his whole life, so it might be a good bet to get out and see this special athlete. And you can do it in comfy settings, as Sequoyah has constructed a new 2,000 seat basketball facility to house the fans.

Good luck to all the Creek athletes in the remainder of their football seasons and in their upcoming basketball seasons

Chancey reflects on a successful softball career

by Jason Salsman

MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Mindy Chancey was waiting in the on-deck circle, waiting for her chance.

Her team, the Henryetta Lady Knights, had not been this far before. Two years earlier they were beat out in the first round. The next year they reached the semifinals before they exited. But this year they were in the state championship game in the last inning facing elimination. With two runners on and one out Chancey, the senior leader and clean-up hitter, figured she would get a chance. That chance never came. The batter in front of her grounded into an inning ending double play. The game, her season and her high school career were now over.

"Everything she brought to the table contributed directly to the success we had as a team."

Normally, you would figure that kind of disappointment would devastate a player, but not Mindy. "Even though we came up just short there at the end, I didn't feel too down," she said. "I had closure because I gave it everything I had, and our team fought

so hard." It is only fitting that Chancey wasn't disappointed, she has nothing to be disappointed about. The last four years, the third baseman has meant everything to the Lady Knights. She started every game, every year for the team and never saw her batting average dip below .350, highlighted by a .433 average during her senior year. That is the consistency that defines greatness in a ballplayer.

But it's not just statistics that tell her story, she brought way more than just numbers to her team. Just ask Henryetta head

coach John Mechler. "From day one, Mindy has been one of the stabilizers of this team. Her work ethic is second to none, and it's led to her setting an example for the rest of the kids to follow, they look up to her," Mechler said. The coach went on to explain how when Mindy would make a mistake in a drill during practice, she would do it over until it was done right. "She bettered herself every single day," he said. "Everything she brought to the table contributed directly to the success we had as a team."

After learning of the qualities described by her coach, it should come as no surprise that Mindy expects the most out of herself. "I always feel that no matter how good things are going, I can always do things better," she says. "I'm very much a perfectionist both on and off the field."

Mindy first started sharpening her skills at the age of 7 when she began playing 8 and under ball during the summers. From there she went to 10 and under until she progressed to playing in 7th grade at Henryetta. It was in these early stages that Mindy developed arguably her most valuable trait; being a team player. Ask her to mention what she liked best about her high school playing career, and you figure she is going to mention a big home run or some gaudy statistic that she put up. Not even close on both claims. "The best part of playing here was the team," said Chancey. "We had good team chemistry, good unity. It was almost like we knew at all times what the others around us were going to do on the field. Our group played together a long time, it was special to be a part of something

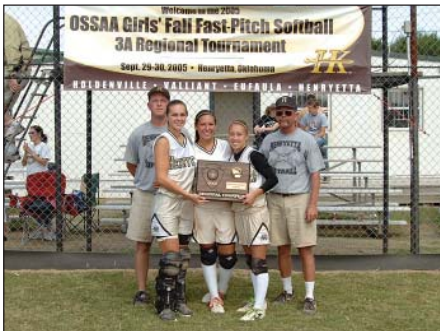
like that." Even though the Lady Knights were not able to claim the state championship, it still is not dwelled on as a negative thing by the senior star. "Sometimes I think about what might have happened had I got the chance



to hit, with the bases possibly being loaded," she says with a grin. "But that's just the way the game goes."

You will have to excuse Mindy if she is not too big on dwelling in the past, not when the future is so bright. You see, she has not played her last game. On November 9th, she signed a national letter of intent to play softball at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. "I'm going to miss everyone I played with because we've played together for so long," she said. "But at the same time, I'm really excited to be able to take my game to the next level."

If her high school career is any indication of her future, then she should have many things to offer her college teammates and coaches. Her coach for the last four years is certainly a believer in that assumption "Mindy is just a natural leader, a leader by the example that she sets on the field during games and in practice," said Mechler. "Any coach or team that she plays on will be lucky to have her."



Chancey, center, proudly displays their third consecutive Regional Title. photo by Lucas Taylor

Horseshoe club continues success

HOLDENVILLE — The Tenn-see Horseshoe Club of Holdenville has finished another successful year of horseshoe pitching.

This year the club brought home four state singles championships, a state runner-up and a third place finisher in the Handicap Championship class. The club also showcased some teamwork as well, with members nabbing the Doubles division championship and third place finishers.

Success is nothing new for this club. Since 1995 they've accumulated 27 titles, 15 runner-ups and 19 third place finishes in the Oklahoma State Championships. They also do it on the national scene, with several members consistently placing at the World

Horseshoe tournament, an international tournament held each year throughout North America. The action moves into Oklahoma's backyard in July 2007 as the World Tourna-

ment will be held in Ardmore. With the tourney coming home, the club would love to see increased Native American participation.

Here is some basic information on the club. They are based out of Holdenville and are sanctioned by both the National and State Horseshoe Pitchers Associations. The club

is predominantly comprised of Muscogee (Creek) citizens coming from Tulsa, Sapulpa, Seminole, Okemah, Ada and Holdenville. The club welcomes anyone who is interested in



horseshoes. Men, women, elders, handicapped and youth are all welcome. The club holds league sanctioned tournaments beginning in the spring and running throughout the summer.

For more information on the Tenn-see Horseshoe Club contact Charles or Debbie Deer at (405) 379-2211

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should sports teams be allowed to have Native American mascots?



It seems as though the more we speak about this controversial subject, the more we find division with Native Americans. Some are for it, some are against it. It would be nice if big-time organizations like the

Redskins and others with big-time budgets would begin to give away scholarships or help tribes in some way, if they feel like it is an "honor" to use the name and identity of American Indians in the first place. Because organizations, groups of people and individuals have mentioned how honored they are to have the name of 'Redskin' or 'Savage', lets see.



When taking a stance in answering this question, you really have to walk a fine line. In some ways I think it is good and even can be considered a tribute for teams to have Native American mascots, when they

use the name of a specific tribe and use it with dignity. But don't call your team the Redskins and say that you are glorifying the Native culture, that is simply a flat-out lie. If a team wants to call themselves the Braves, Indians or Chiefs I don't have a problem with that. The problem arises when extensive reverence is not given to the names they use.



Creek youth represents culture through art



Veteran's Day ceremony



Chicken Fried 101 with K & G Roundup cafe



Section C, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

November 2005

Creek Artist set to debut short film

LOS ANGELES — If you really believe in something, you will do what it takes to make it happen, that saying is what Muscogee (Creek) filmmaker Sherwood Ball takes to heart.

Ball is the producer, director, and just about everything else in the short film 'Headrights'. A film about the Osage oil and land right murders of the last century. The 30 minute short film made its Oklahoma debut at the 'Red Fork Native American Film Festival' that was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma on November 17, 18, & 19.

Ball enlisted the help of his wife, Celia Xavier, and he wanted to make sure that she knew the magnitude of the subject matter. Xavier would serve officially as star, producer, and writer of the film, and would even ask for divine guidance. "As artists, we know we are messengers," says Ball. "My wife prayed and asked 'what do you want me to say?' I told her of one story that my grandfather, Bill Conley of Wetumka told me as a little boy. That white people would make Indians sign over their land to them and then shoot them in the head. Her mouth dropped open in shock. We did alot of research and this is the result, although, not the end result."

Ball even recalls a personal event that helped shape his view about the terrible circumstances that happened to Native Americans in history. "When I was 16 yrs. old, I received a govt. check for \$160, but couldn't cash it," says Ball. "It said on the check, 'For the territories of Georgia, Florida, & Alabama'. I knew in my heart and soul that this check represented so much suffering and death."

Ball was born a creative artist, and motion pictures is just one of the formats that he specializes in. "I started playing guitar by 6, singing and acting by 12 and writing songs by 13," says Ball. "I was in a Disney boyscout movie, some tv, and 60 national commercials by the time I was 19. When I went to theater college to study light design, costume design, set design, sound editing, and more acting. I decided that I missed my music and could be more happy on a daily basis singing and playing guitar, whereas it's difficult to do Hamlet in front of the mirror everyday. My heart was always in the theatrical artform."

Ball's music also allowed him to experience different areas. "Rock n' roll took me touring around the world, playing lead guitar with Three Dog Night, backing up Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, etc," said Ball. "The problem was, I kept dreaming original movies. So I started writing them down and eventually when I married Celia Xavier, we started writing screenplays and producing them."

Ball and Xavier shot "Headrights" in Oklahoma last summer. "The Sooner state is pretty humid but incredibly beautiful," said Ball. "We love OK. I don't think alot of people out West realize how beautiful Oklahoma is, most think of "Grapes of Wrath."

Ball even enlisted the help of local Native American actors, such as Irene Tiger, Joby Redcorn, Frank Redcorn, Wilma Redcorn, Tim Harjochee, and Thomasine Fife. "This needs to be a feature length film," says Ball. "That is the ultimate goal."

Creek newsman wins Emmy

TULSA — So what does a top-notch Muscogee (Creek) photojournalist do to win an *Emmy* in his chosen field? Why, just go around with a video camera, find a strong, wicked, storm about, and then team up with a selected female duo that call themselves the *Twister Sisters*.

That's exactly what Benjamin West did last year. West, a photojournalist who works for FOX television station O&O out of Minneapolis shot and edited the news story titled "The Perfect Storm Chasers." The schedule was hectic. "I went through five states in four days," says West, who ventured through Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma to complete the story. "It was a story to help promote station storm coverage during tornado season," says West.

Although West was with a team at times, it was often that his assignment was totally up to him. "I was alone on the project," says West, "and I had to fed ex video tapes back to the station when I reached Kansas on the third day, because the story was going to air three days later."

The relentless pursuit definitely paid off. West in only his fourth news story assignment brought home the coveted award.

Before working in Minneapolis, West worked as a photojournalist at CBS 46 news in Atlanta, Georgia. West has also worked in other cities such as: Corpus Christi, and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

West actually got his start in Tulsa, having been raised there. He received his high school education at McClain High School before going to college in Corpus Christi.

West, who is also of Otoe and Southern Cheyenne descent, has covered other meaningful stories as well. "My first story I got sent to when I moved to Minnesota was the Red Lake shooting," says West. "It was a terrible situation, and at the same time, a touching one. What really hurt me was to see how divided the reservation was being. On the south side of the Lake where the High School was, I got the chance to talk to the younger generation, and most of them had never even been to the other side of the lake."

But West knew the incident really hurt the older generation as well. "What was so disturbing, was that is where the Native Tongue is spoken," says West, where the elders who practice their tradition live. That has really stuck with him since the incident. But the accomplished newsman didn't just feel bad and do nothing.

"I am working on things to do my part on how to educate today's Indian kids," says West. "I just recently came



Benjamin and Sonia West

back from Pipe Stem, Minnesota and did a news feature on the history and background of this sacred place. Hopefully someone learned something about their past through my ability to tell a story through a video camera."

West, whose first plans was to become a DJ on the radio, plans to keep on going in his profession for a good while. "I hope that I will be able to continue what I am doing for a long time to come," says West. "I Love what I do, we need more Natives in the broadcasting world, its good to be a voice as an advocate from the sidelines, but to have the opportunity to change things from the technical side is a much stronger ability to actually help, or change."

West is married to wife Sonia, together they have one daughter, Akira. West's Mother is Annette Arkeketa and Father is Jon West. Jon works within the General Services Administration department with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. West is also the grandson of Mary Arkeketa and the late Benjamin Arkeketa. He is also the grandson of the late Minnie West.

"I would really like to thank my Mom and Dad," says West. "Especially my Dad, Jon West who brought me and raised me around our traditions. I feel like knowing who I am as a person and as a culture has helped me become the person that I am today."



At the Movies with Josh Slane

Hollywood takes another spin at portraying Native Americans on the screen in another interesting part of American History. The film *New World* is set to hit theatres on December 25, Christmas Day. The movie, according to releases, 'is a sweeping adventure set amidst the first encounter of European and Native American cultures during the founding of the Jamestown, Virginia settlement in 1607.

Acclaimed filmmaker Terrence Malick brings to life his own unique interpretation of the classic tale of Pocahontas and her relationships with adventurers



John Smith and aristocrat John Rolfe. This woman's remarkable journey of love lost and found takes her from the untouched beauty of the Virginia wilderness to the upper crust of English society as we witness the dawn of a new America'. The film stars: Colin Farrell, Christopher Plummer, and August Schellenberg. Q'orianka Kilcher, who is of Quechua /Huachipaeri plays the part of Pocahontas.



Ted Isham
Creek Council House Museum Curator

On Tuesday November 1, 2005, Muscogee (Creeks) played a key role in a Ground-Blessing Ceremony conducted at the site of a new American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City. Thousands, including Creeks, members from other tribes across the state, and others gathered beside the North Canadian River in Oklahoma City on a crystal clear evening to participate in the official Ground Blessing for the new American Indian Cultural Center (AICC). Dignitaries included Governor and Mrs. Brad Henry, Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Connett, former governor David Walters, and many city and state officials. Tribal leaders also played a key role in the ceremony, as well as delegates visiting from the National Congress of American Indian conference and even some Indigenous Hawaiian elders.

For many reasons, the ceremony was called a “ground blessing” instead of the usual ground breaking ceremony. One reason is that native people view themselves as caretakers of ‘ekvni ecke’, mother earth, and use extreme caution in interrupting the surface of ‘Our Mother’. Also, the site has had environmental problems resulting from use as an oilfield and is still being cleaned. As part of the ground blessing, tribes throughout Oklahoma had the opportunity to conduct their own blessings using their own traditions, further sanctifying the site for the new American Indian Culture Center.

Sam Proctor, Mvskoke Etlwv ‘Heles Hayv’ conducted a blessing, after which a

fire was lit and a victory stomp dance was held at daybreak according to traditional practices and beliefs of the Creeks. The fire was tended and watched all day long to play a key part of the overall ceremony.

The official festivities began in the afternoon, with social pow wow and stomp dancing and singing. A grand entry was led by the Kiowa Black Leggings, a veteran’s war society, the Seminole Nation Color Guard and tribal princesses from throughout the state. Tribal flags from each of the 39 tribes in the state were carried in, followed by tribal leaders and representatives from each of the tribes. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The grand entry march was reminiscent of the opening day festivities at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC.

The evening ceremonies included speeches by Governor Henry and many others who pledged their support of what will be a world class museum. The crowd then watched as the Chief or representative of every tribe from the state ceremonially ‘fed’ the fire by each placing a hickory stick into the fire that had been started at dawn, thus blessing the site further. The evening was capped off by a tremendous display of fireworks exploding all across the river with the Oklahoma City skyline as a backdrop.

Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum Curator, gave this speech following one

given in Mvskoke by Sam Proctor, as explanation of the ceremonial activities and the meaning for the new AICC.

“Imagine if you will, as the sun begins its daily journey and begins to peek above the Eastern horizon. At that very moment as the first ray of light, the purest of pure energy, shines on the very space we are now standing, something miraculous happens.

Native people from all around hold that moment of time as very special and this is shown by the way each embrace it in their

many ways, one of which is to give thanks to the life sustaining powers the Sun embodies. Another way, one from the Southeastern tradition, to celebrate that moment is to capture that life-sustaining solar energy in the form of fire. For us the fire is the Earthly representation of the sun and our direct link to the ‘ohfvnkv’ the one above. As we gather together around our sacred fires and sing the

praises and give the thanks, the smoke that rises up towards the heavens causes the creator to hear us and let him know that we are still here.

This morning we built a fire on this site. Our elder, Sam Proctor, was here to make sure the fire was done in the proper way, a way that is different than in our ceremonial grounds but still similar. We also built the first mound for this site on the space where the fire was lit, thus anchoring this place as special among all spaces.

During the time when our people were

removed from their homelands in the East, parts of our sacred spaces were brought along with us on the march. We brought the fires and ashes of all of our towns here to Oklahoma and re-established them, thus keeping the sacred spaces intact and unbroken. This represents our concept of ‘everlasting fires’. We will do this here by collecting the ashes from this special fire to be reburied here and thus maintaining a connection to our past. We paid tribute to our ancestors from all groups, from the Eastern tribes to the Western tribes, by sacrificing both the sacred logs of the four directions and the meat of the buffalo.

We started the fire here today because that is our way – and while we can’t speak for all the tribes, we humbly ask they allow us this way to give blessing for this American Indian Cultural Center on this ground. We started the fire, but the other tribes have contributed their offering to this special fire. That is the feeling we want to leave for you, those of you that have been witness to these acts of blessing and healing here today. This space is now made whole for all, not just for the whole world, although they are welcome, no not just for the different races and cultures that make up Oklahoma, not even just to our descendants who will ‘come after us’, but most importantly for each one of us knowing about one another. We are stronger— together.

The further we look to our past the further into the future we also reach. It is fitting that on this spot a great space will be built that will be here for possibly one thousand years more. To accomplish this act we have gone backwards into the depths of time for at least one-thousand years, to invoke the spirits of our ancestors to be with our descendants.”

Matekosa makaranis ci!

Mvto Cekicvkis ci!

Este cate yoksv sekona apokvres...

Creek youth represents her culture through her art

MORRIS— Mariah Brown, a 13/16 Creek youth, is the daughter of Franklin and Lydia Brown of Morris. She has a sister, Elsie Brown of Morris. She attends the 8th grade at the Morris Middle School. Mariah’s grandparents are Florence and the late Felix Brown Sr. of Okmulgee and Pauline (Starr) Proctor of Nuyaka.

Mariah enjoys painting and creating art that represents her Creek culture.

One of her paintings entitled “The Stomp dance” was a birthday gift to her mother while she was in the fifth grade. This painting earned a First Place Ribbon at the Art contest in 2003. The

painting has inspired Muscogee Nation Programs to use the painting for various events, festivals and fundraisers across Indian country. The painting can also be seen at all the Muscogee Nation Health facilities on the non smoking pamphlets created by the Muscogee nation Tobacco Program.

Mariah’s hobbies include making jewelry, painting, taking pictures, cooking with her grandmothers, taking care of her cousin, listening to music, watching movies, talking with her friends and learning her culture.

Mariah’s inspiration comes from her family and friends. She enjoys creating beautiful things and is very proud of her culture and traditions.



Mariah Brown Creek Artist



Brown’s painting “The Stomp dance”

Tiger receives “Art of the Deal: Make it Happen” award

TULSA—The Oklahoma Statewide Native American Business Development Center 2005 Oklahoma Minority Development (MED) Week Awards Dinner was held in August 18 at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa. The event honors Native Americans and minorities who have beaten significant odds to become successful entrepreneurs. This year’s MED award was “Art of the Deal: Make it happen”. One of this year’s winners was Muscogee (Creek) citizen and National Council Creek District Representative George Tiger was awarded the “Award of Excellence for Community Service”. Tiger replied “I accept on behalf of Na-

tive American Communities and KOTV for all their support during my twenty-plus years of serving as Executive Producer and host of Inside Native America”.

The Oklahoma Statewide Native American Business Development Center (ONABDC) is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).

ONABDC provides business assistance free of charge to Native American and other minority owned companies for the entire state of Oklahoma.



Tiger receives “Art of the Deal: Make it happen” Award at the Gilcrease Museum

NOTICE TO ALL CREEK ARTISTS AND CRAFTSMEN

IF YOU ARE A CREEK ARTIST OR CRAFTSMEN PLEASE CONTACT US ABOUT PLACING YOUR ART OR CRAFT WORK IN OUR MUSCOGEE NEWS AND THE OFFICIAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION WEBSITE.

2005 VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 10TH
MOUND
AUDITORIUM
OKMULGEE, OK



Semper Fi Members of the United States Marine Corps prepare for the opening ceremonies.



Pictured (left to right): National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Little Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Newakis Hicks and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill view the military units.



Methodist Minister Harry Long and Creek Nation Veteran Affairs Director Ken Davis, veterans of U.S. Marine Corps.



World War II and "Battan Death March" survivor Phillip Coon proudly displays the flag of the U.S. Army.



Members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard along with Little Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Newakis Hicks.



Creek Nation District Judge Patrick Moore leads the veterans of the U.S. Air Force.



Reverend George Doyle hoists the flag and brings in the military branch of the U.S. Navy.

K & G ROUNDUP CAFE
Established in 1985

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Writer

Five years ago, Gayle Moore and her husband, Ken, decided to take over the K & G Roundup Cafe in Weleetka. The couple, who don't really consider themselves saavy business people, seem to have made a great investment.

Before the Moores bought the local, popular eating establishment, it was owned by Charles and Gary Epperson and LouAnn Harper. The trio owned the restaurant for 15 years.

"My husband and I had both worked here for years," says Gayle, "and the opportunity came up to buy it and we figured we might as well start working for ourselves." Actually Gayle, who has lived in the Weleetka area all her life, has worked there for 11 years.

The tradition that has made the K&G Roundup Cafe unique is its many options available on the menu. Food choices range from fish, chicken, bar-b-que, hamburgers, and Mexican food as well. Customers will really enjoy the Wednesday night bar-b-que platter, the all-you-can-eat Mexican buffet on Thursday, and don't forget the Saturday 10 ounce ribeye with shrimp. Gayle admits that the Monday night fish-and-chicken buffet goes over very well with hungry visitors as well.

Unique sandwiches are also available, like the drip beef sandwich, served with your choice of a salad, soup, fries, or onion rings.

Then there are the desserts, which are all made from scratch back in the kitchen. Established treats like apple and cherry pie are available, but more adventurous eaters may want to check out the blackberry cobbler, or the hot fudge cake, a nice way to top off a great meal.

Of course, the K&G Roundup Cafe boasts of perhaps its most popular item on the menu, the chicken fried steak dinner. If a customer truly wants to embrace what this little restaurant is all about, this delicious meal is the ticket. In fact, the chicken fried steak dinner has almost reached a type of local legend status.

If you talk with the natives that are frequently, there they will describe the giant sized flour battered piece of meat as glorious and is so huge that it literally hangs over the plate. In this modern, sarcastic, world that we live in, a bit of skepticism is usually met with such fishing tales. Well, this is one of those stories that happens to be true. After ordering the most famous item on the menu, first-time customers will really be amazed as to how big the chicken fried steaks really is. The fact that the hot, crisp, and juicy beef is covered with delicious white gravy, with black-eyed peas on the side and a great size Texas Toast just makes it that much better. Customers are also given a choice of soup or salad as well.

While visiting, I ordered the broccoli and cheese soup. It was certainly a tasty appetizer.

The restaurant is located on the mainstreet of downtown Weleetka. If you're not accustomed to the area, you may not spot it the first drive thru. Just turn around, and go back thru, you'll enjoy eyeing the stores that make up this little town.

Once you park and go inside, the decor is warm and friendly, and certainly has all the charm of what makes up small Oklahoma towns, its worth the trip. Prices are very reasonable. The K & G Roundup Cafe is located at 111 W. 9th Street in Weleetka, Oklahoma. Business hours are from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Chicken Fried Steak Review
by Jason Salsman

If you're ever traveling south on Highway 75 through the small town of Weleetka, don't blink or you just might miss one of Oklahoma's best-kept culinary secrets.

The K & G Round-Up Cafe boasts some of the area's best food, and the menu promises that customers will enjoy their meal. They definitely make good on that promise and that's not all the cafe provides. Historic images line the walls, a sit-down counter is located at the front of the cafe and the dining area possesses an old-time atmosphere, so cozy that it feels like you are back in grandma's kitchen instead of a restaurant.

Swinging open the front door will let customers know that right away what they

Chicken Fried 101



Pictured above is the K & G Roundup Cafe's legendary Chicken Fried Steak dinner. Weleetka natives describe the dish as glorious and so huge that it hangs over the sides of the plate.

photo by Gerald Wofford

are in for. The home-cooked aroma hits and makes your mouth water before you even get a glimpse of the food. The menu provides a diverse lineup of selections, varying from Mexican food to seafood and steaks. You have to double-check the menu when reading the price listings as the rates are "quite reasonable." As I looked over the menu, there were many choices but I had come to the Round-Up for one thing, the dish that makes this place a landmark; the chicken-fried steak. Anybody that hears stories about the size of Round-Up's chicken-fried steak probably shrugs the tales off as exaggeration. I am hear to testify to the contrary folks, it has to be the biggest and tastiest chicken-fried steak that you'll ever eat. They brought our food out and my dish really should have been served on two plates! The hardest decision you have is where to start cutting the steak. It is perfectly seasoned and breaded and half of it was more than I could eat. The dinner comes with a vegetable, delicious home-cooked mashed potatoes and gravy and a thick piece of toasted bread. The fact that a meal of this size and of this quality all went for under \$7 still boggles my mind. Don't worry either about wasting any of the food. The waitress' are well aware of the chore it is to finish this meal, so your to-go boxes are usually on the table and ready before you even finish eating. As if all that isn't enough, the Round-Up also offers a wide variety of tasty desserts to compliment their entrees. Those that have a sweet tooth have their choice of cobbler, pie, cheesecake and ice cream. It is an absolute ideal place to take a family for a meal, as neither your stomachs nor your wallet will leave empty.


I would like to say a big "Mvto" to the Round-Up cafe for having us. The food was absolutely fantastic, not just on our plates, but on others as well.

The wait staff and ownership were very accommodating in letting us review the restaurant and provided us with the information we needed as well as the great food. I don't know when I'll be back because I'm still full even as I write this article. I know I'll be taking

new customers with me, because this cafe is simply something that you have to experience to believe. Even though it's nestled inside a small town, the Round-Up cafe packs an awfully big taste!

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